







DOCTRINES  
AND  
**DISCIPLINE**

OF THE  
Methodist Episcopal Church

1920



THE METHODIST BOOK CONCERN  
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AND  
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General Conference Secretary

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## EPISCOPAL ADDRESS

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### **To the Members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.**

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN: It is our privilege and duty to recommend to you this volume, which contains the DOCTRINES and DISCIPLINE of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which we believe are agreeable to the Word of God. Although the Word of God is the only sufficient rule of faith and practice, the Church, in the liberty given to it by the Lord, and following the example of other churches, ancient and modern, has modified its Discipline from time to time in order more fully to secure the end for which it was founded.

We believe that God's design in raising up the Methodist Episcopal Church in America was to aid in evangelizing the continent and "to spread scriptural holiness over these lands." Evidently God's blessing has been with us, and we have seen an extraordinary work extending throughout all the United States and Territories and throughout the British possessions in North America; also the planting of successful Missions in South America and Mexico. The Methodist Episcopal

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Church, in its organic form and spiritual power, has been established in Africa, Asia, and Europe, where God has given to it great prosperity.

During the period in which this work has been extending, the Church has revised its legislation to meet the demands created by its own activities and by the conditions of the different peoples among whom it strives to build up the Kingdom of God.

The peculiar Constitution and Administrative Rules of our Church, to which its success is largely due, deserve careful study. The Itinerant Ministry, the subpastorate through Classes, the Episcopacy, the District Superintendency, the Conferences in their gradation, the Local Ministry, the Judicial Administration, the Interdependence of Ministry and Laity, with the well-defined duties and rights of each, are severally parts of a system which can be truly valued, profitably used, or wisely modified only by those who through loving and faithful study have become familiar with it.

Therefore this volume should be found in the home of every member of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and the more so because it contains the Doctrines maintained, in part or in whole, by every Evangelical Church.

The Order of Worship herein set forth (§ 72) we commend to your scrupulous observance. In

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substance it has been received from our Fathers, and has been approved by the judgment of the Church. If uniformly observed, it will continue to be both a token and a bond of unity throughout our widespread communion.

We remain your affectionate Brethren and Pastors:

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## HISTORICAL STATEMENT

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THE doctrine and spirit of Primitive Christianity have existed at different times and in different degrees in all branches of the kingdom of Christ among men. They were embodied in a new form on this wise:

"In 1729 two young men in England, reading the Bible, saw they could not be saved without holiness, followed after it, and incited others so to do. In 1737 they saw, likewise, that men are justified before they are sanctified; but still holiness was their object. God then thrust them out to raise a holy people."

This was the rise of Methodism, as given in the words of its founders, John and Charles Wesley, of Oxford University, Presbyters of the Church of England. Their evangelical labors were accompanied by an extraordinary divine influence; other Ministers and many Lay Preachers were raised up to aid them; and throughout England and in Scotland and Ireland arose *United Societies* of men having the form and seeking the power of godliness. These subsequently became the Wesleyan Churches of Great Britain.

In the year 1766 Philip Embury, a Wesleyan Local Preacher from Ireland, began to preach in New York City and formed a Society, now the John Street Church. Another Local Preacher, Thomas Webb, Captain in the British army, soon joined him and also preached in the City of New York and its vicin-

## HISTORICAL STATEMENT

ity. About the same time Robert Strawbridge, from Ireland, settled in Frederick County, Maryland, preaching there and forming Societies. In 1769 Mr. Wesley sent to America two Itinerant Preachers, Richard Boardman and Joseph Pilmoor, and in 1771 two others, Francis Asbury and Richard Wright. The work thus begun was signally owned of God, so that, at the close of the Revolutionary War, the number of Traveling Preachers was about eighty, and of members in the Societies about fifteen thousand.

When the Independence of the United States was acknowledged by the treaty of 1783, the American Methodists, most of whom had been members of the Church of England, according to the declaration of Mr. Wesley, were "totally disentangled both from the State and the English hierarchy." He added: "They are now at full liberty simply to follow the Scriptures and the Primitive Church, and we judge it best that they should stand fast in that liberty wherewith God has so strangely made them free." The parish clergy had mostly returned to England, and the Methodist Societies were without ordained Pastors. "For hundreds of miles together" they were destitute of the Christian sacraments.

As his children in the Gospel, they appealed to Mr. Wesley for advice and help, and he responded by ordaining Richard Whatcoat and Thomas Vasey as Presbyters (or Elders) for America; and also, since he preferred the Episcopal form of Church government, by setting apart, by prayer and by the imposition of hands, the Rev. Thomas Coke, Doctor of Civil Law, a Presbyter of the Church of England, to be a Superintendent, "to preside over the flock of Christ" in America. In these services he

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was assisted by other ordained ministers. He also commissioned Dr. Coke to ordain, as joint Superintendent with himself, the Rev. Francis Asbury, then General Assistant for the American Societies. Mr. Wesley also prepared "Articles of Religion" and a "Sunday Service," both abbreviated from the Book of Common Prayer of the Church of England. In the "Sunday Service" were included forms for the Administration of the Sacraments and for the ordination of Ministers.

At the "Christmas Conference," begun in Baltimore, Maryland, December 24, 1784, sixty Preachers met Dr. Coke and his companions. The plan of Mr. Wesley was submitted to them, and was unanimously and heartily approved. Thereupon they organized the METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, and adopted the Articles of Religion and the Sunday Service prepared by Mr. Wesley, adding to the Articles one containing a recognition of the new Civil Government, and inserting in the Ritual a prayer for the Supreme Rulers of the United States. They also enacted all laws necessary for the government of the new Church. Mr. Asbury was elected to the Episcopal office conjointly with Dr. Coke, by whom, with the assistance of several Presbyters, he was duly consecrated a Bishop. Others were ordained Deacons, and thirteen were elected Elders, and either then or soon thereafter were duly ordained, two of them for missionary work in Nova Scotia and one for like work in Antigua, in the West Indies.

Such was the origin of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the first with an Episcopal form of government to attain an independent existence in the new Republic. While its polity and administrative rules

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have been modified from time to time to meet changing conditions and opportunities, it remains unchanged in doctrine and in ministerial offices. Co-eval with the Republic, it has expanded with it, and has ministered to its moral and religious life. At this date (1920) its ministers and communicants, not including adherents, number more than four millions. Other Methodist Churches, derived from the original root, flourish by its side. Obviously its founders were wise and godly men, fulfilling the purpose of the great Head of the Church.

The Methodist Episcopal Church has always believed that the only infallible proof of the legitimacy of any branch of the Christian Church is its ability to seek and to save the lost, and to disseminate the Pentecostal spirit and life. The chief stress has ever been laid, not upon the forms but upon the essentials of religion. It holds that true Churches of Christ may differ widely in ceremonies, ministerial orders, and government. Its members are allowed freedom of choice among the debated modes of Baptism. If any member has scruples against receiving the Lord's Supper kneeling, he is permitted to receive it standing or sitting. In ordinary worship its people are invited to unite in extemporaneous prayer, but for the Administration of the Sacraments, Ordinations, the Solemnization of Matrimony, the Burial of the Dead, and other special services, a Liturgy is appointed, taken in large part from Rituals used by the Universal Church from ancient times.

The sole object of the rules, regulations, and usages of the Methodist Episcopal Church is that it

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may fulfill to the end of time its original divine commission as a leader in evangelization, in all true reforms, and in the promotion of fraternal relations among all branches of the one Church of Jesus Christ, with which it is a co-worker in the spiritual conquest of the world for the Son of God.

may follow to the end of time its original design  
 continues as a leader in every relation to the  
 world, and in the position of highest relation  
 among all branches of the one Church of Jesus  
 Christ, which is the one Church in the spiritual  
 conquest of the world for the Son of God.

The Church of Christ is the only Church which  
 has been established by the direct command of  
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# THE CONSTITUTION

- I. ARTICLES OF RELIGION**
- II. THE GENERAL RULES**
- III. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION AND GOV-  
ERNMENT**

# THE CONSTITUTION OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## PREAMBLE

In order the better to preserve our historic heritage, and the more effectually to cooperate with other branches of the one Church of Jesus Christ in advancing the kingdom of God among men, we, the ministers and laymen of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in accordance with the methods of constitutional legislation in force among us, hereby ordain, establish, and set forth as the fundamental law or Constitution of the Methodist Episcopal Church the Articles of Religion, the General Rules, and the Articles of Organization and Government, here following, to wit:

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## DIVISION I

### ARTICLES OF RELIGION

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#### *I. Of Faith in the Holy Trinity*

¶ 1. There is but one living and true God, everlasting, without body or parts, of infinite power, wisdom, and goodness; the maker and preserver of all things, visible and invisible. And in unity of this Godhead there are three persons, of one substance, power, and eternity—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

## II. *Of the Word, or Son of God, who was made very Man*

¶ 2. The Son, who was the Word of the Father, the very and eternal God, of one substance with the Father, took man's nature in the womb of the blessed Virgin; so that two whole and perfect natures, that is to say, the Godhead and Manhood, were joined together in one person, never to be divided; whereof is one Christ, very God and very Man, who truly suffered, was crucified, dead, and buried, to reconcile his Father to us, and to be a sacrifice, not only for original guilt, but also for the actual sins of men.

## III. *Of the Resurrection of Christ*

¶ 3. Christ did truly rise again from the dead, and took again his body, with all things appertaining to the perfection of man's nature, wherewith he ascended into heaven, and there sitteth until he return to judge all men at the last day.

## IV. *Of the Holy Ghost*

¶ 4. The Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son, is of one substance, majesty, and glory with the Father and the Son, very and eternal God.

## V. *The Sufficiency of the Holy Scriptures for Salvation*

¶ 5. The Holy Scriptures contain all things necessary to salvation; so that whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man that it should be believed as an article of faith, or be thought requisite or necessary to salvation. In the name of the Holy Scriptures we do understand those canonical books of the Old and

New Testament of whose authority was never any doubt in the Church. The names of the canonical books are:

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, The First Book of Samuel, The Second Book of Samuel, The First Book of Kings, The Second Book of Kings, The First Book of Chronicles, The Second Book of Chronicles, The Book of Ezra, The Book of Nehemiah, The Book of Esther, The Book of Job, The Psalms, The Proverbs, Ecclesiastes or the Preacher, Cantica or Song of Solomon, Four Prophets the Greater, Twelve Prophets the Less.

All the books of the New Testament as they are commonly received, we do receive and account canonical.

#### VI. *Of the Old Testament*

¶ 6. The Old Testament is not contrary to the New; for both in the Old and New Testament everlasting life is offered to mankind by Christ, who is the only Mediator between God and man, being both God and Man. Wherefore they are not to be heard who feign that the old fathers did look only for transitory promises. Although the law given from God by Moses as touching ceremonies and rites doth not bind Christians, nor ought the civil precepts thereof of necessity be received in any commonwealth; yet, notwithstanding, no Christian whatsoever is free from the obedience of the commandments which are called moral.

#### VII. *Of Original or Birth Sin*

¶ 7. Original sin standeth not in the following of Adam (as the Pelagians do vainly talk), but it is the

corruption of the nature of every man, that naturally is engendered of the offspring of Adam, whereby man is very far gone from original righteousness, and of his own nature inclined to evil, and that continually.

#### VIII. *Of Free Will*

¶ 8. The condition of man after the fall of Adam is such that he cannot turn and prepare himself, by his own natural strength and works, to faith, and calling upon God; wherefore we have no power to do good works, pleasant and acceptable to God, without the grace of God by Christ preventing us, that we may have a good will, and working with us, when we have that good will.

#### IX. *Of the Justification of Man*

¶ 9. We are accounted righteous before God only for the merit of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, by faith, and not for our own works or deservings. Wherefore, that we are justified by faith only is a most wholesome doctrine, and very full of comfort.

#### X. *Of Good Works*

¶ 10. Although good works, which are the fruits of faith, and follow after justification, cannot put away our sins, and endure the severity of God's judgments; yet are they pleasing and acceptable to God in Christ, and spring out of a true and lively faith, inso-much that by them a lively faith may be as evidently known as a tree is discerned by its fruit.

#### XI. *Of Works of Supererogation*

¶ 11. Voluntary works—besides, over, and above God's commandments—which are called works of su-

pererogation, cannot be taught without arrogance and impiety. For by them men do declare that they do not only render unto God as much as they are bound to do, but that they do more for his sake than of bounden duty is required: whereas Christ saith plainly: When ye have done all that is commanded of you, say, We are unprofitable servants.

### XII. *Of Sin after Justification*

¶ 12. Not every sin willingly committed after justification is the sin against the Holy Ghost, and unpardonable. Wherefore, the grant of repentance is not to be denied to such as fall into sin after justification: after we have received the Holy Ghost, we may depart from grace given, and fall into sin, and, by the grace of God, rise again and amend our lives. And therefore they are to be condemned who say they can no more sin as long as they live here; or deny the place of forgiveness to such as truly repent.

### XIII. *Of the Church*

¶ 13. The visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men in which the pure Word of God is preached, and the Sacraments duly administered according to Christ's ordinance, in all those things that of necessity are requisite to the same.

### XIV. *Of Purgatory*

¶ 14. The Romish doctrine concerning purgatory, pardon, worshiping and adoration, as well of images as of relics, and also invocation of saints, is a fond thing, vainly invented, and grounded upon no warrant of Scripture, but repugnant to the Word of God.

XV. *Of Speaking in the Congregation in such a Tongue as the People Understand*

¶ 15. It is a thing plainly repugnant to the Word of God, and the custom of the primitive Church, to have public prayer in the Church, or to administer the Sacraments, in a tongue not understood by the people.

XVI. *Of the Sacraments*

¶ 16. Sacraments ordained of Christ are not only badges or tokens of Christian men's profession, but rather they are certain signs of grace, and God's good will toward us, by the which he doth work invisibly in us, and doth not only quicken, but also strengthen and confirm, our faith in him.

There are two Sacraments ordained of Christ our Lord in the Gospel; that is to say, Baptism and the Supper of the Lord.

Those five commonly called Sacraments, that is to say, confirmation, penance, orders, matrimony, and extreme unction, are not to be counted for Sacraments of the Gospel; being such as have partly grown out of the *corrupt* following of the Apostles, and partly are states of life allowed in the Scriptures, but yet have not the like nature of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, because they have not any visible sign or ceremony ordained of God.

The Sacraments were not ordained of Christ to be gazed upon, or to be carried about; but that we should duly use them. And in such only as worthily receive the same they have a wholesome effect or operation: but they that receive them unworthily, purchase to themselves condemnation, as Saint Paul saith, 1 Cor. 11. 29.

XVII. *Of Baptism*

¶ 17. Baptism is not only a sign of profession and mark of difference whereby Christians are distinguished from others that are not baptized; but it is also a sign of regeneration or the new birth. The baptism of young children is to be retained in the Church.

XVIII. *Of the Lord's Supper*

¶ 18. The Supper of the Lord is not only a sign of the love that Christians ought to have among themselves one to another, but rather is a Sacrament of our redemption by Christ's death; insomuch that, to such as rightly, worthily, and with faith receive the same, the bread which we break is a partaking of the body of Christ; and likewise the cup of blessing is a partaking of the blood of Christ.

Transubstantiation, or the change of the substance of bread and wine in the Supper of our Lord, cannot be proved by Holy Writ, but is repugnant to the plain words of Scripture, overthroweth the nature of a Sacrament, and hath given occasion to many superstitions.

The body of Christ is given, taken, and eaten in the Supper, only after a heavenly and spiritual manner. And the means whereby the body of Christ is received and eaten in the Supper is faith.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was not by Christ's ordinance reserved, carried about, lifted up, or worshiped.

XIX. *Of both Kinds*

¶ 19. The Cup of the Lord is not to be denied to the Lay People; for both the parts of the Lord's Sup-

per, by Christ's ordinance and commandment, ought to be administered to all Christians alike.

XX. *Of the one Oblation of Christ, finished upon the Cross*

¶ 20. The offering of Christ, once made, is that perfect redemption, propitiation, and satisfaction for all the sins of the whole world, both original and actual; and there is none other satisfaction for sin but that alone. Wherefore the sacrifice of masses, in the which it is commonly said that the priest doth offer Christ for the quick and the dead, to have remission of pain or guilt, is a blasphemous fable and dangerous deceit.

XXI. *Of the Marriage of Ministers*

¶ 21. The Ministers of Christ are not commanded by God's law either to vow the estate of single life, or to abstain from marriage; therefore it is lawful for them, as for all other Christians, to marry at their own discretion, as they shall judge the same to serve best to godliness.

XXII. *Of the Rites and Ceremonies of Churches*

¶ 22. It is not necessary that rites and ceremonies should in all places be the same, or exactly alike; for they have been always different, and may be changed according to the diversity of countries, times, and men's manners, so that nothing be ordained against God's Word. Whosoever, through his private judgment, willingly and purposely doth openly break the rites and ceremonies of the Church to which he belongs, which are not repugnant to the Word of God, and are ordained and approved by common authority,

ought to be rebuked openly (that others may fear to do the like), as one that offendeth against the common order of the Church, and woundeth the consciences of weak brethren.

Every particular Church may ordain, change, or abolish rites and ceremonies, so that all things may be done to edification.

XXIII. *Of the Rulers of the United States of America*

¶ 23. The President, the Congress, the General Assemblies, the Governors, and the Councils of State as *the Delegates of the People*, are the Rulers of the United States of America, according to the division of power made to them by the Constitution of the United States, and by the Constitutions of their respective States. And the said States are a sovereign and independent Nation, and ought not to be subject to any foreign jurisdiction.<sup>1</sup>

XXIV. *Of Christian Men's Goods*

¶ 24. The riches and goods of Christians are not common, as touching the right, title, and possession of the same, as some do falsely boast. Notwithstanding, every man ought, of such things as he possesseth, liberally to give alms to the poor, according to his ability.

XXV. *Of a Christian Man's Oath*

¶ 25. As we confess that vain and rash swearing is forbidden Christian men by our Lord Jesus Christ

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<sup>1</sup> As far as it respects civil affairs we believe it the duty of Christians, and especially of all Christian Ministers, to be subject to the supreme authority of the country where they may reside, and to use all laudable means to enjoin obedience to the powers that be: and therefore it is expected that all our Preachers and People, who may be under the British or any other Government, will behave themselves as peaceable and orderly subjects.

and James, his Apostle; so we judge that the Christian religion doth not prohibit, but that a man may swear when the magistrate requireth, in a cause of faith and charity, so it be done according to the Prophet's teaching, in justice, judgment, and truth.

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## DIVISION II

### THE GENERAL RULES

#### The Nature, Design, and General Rules of Our United Societies

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¶ 26. In the latter end of the year 1739 eight or ten persons who appeared to be deeply convicted of sin, and earnestly groaning for redemption, came to Mr. Wesley in London. They desired, as did two or three more the next day, that he would spend some time with them in prayer, and advise them how to flee from the wrath to come, which they saw continually hanging over their heads. That he might have more time for this great work, he appointed a day when they might all come together; which from thenceforward they did every week, namely, on Thursday, in the evening. To these, and as many more as desired to join with them (for their number increased daily), he gave those advices from time to time which he judged most needful for them; and they always concluded their meeting with prayer suited to their several necessities.

¶ 27. This was the rise of the UNITED SOCIETY, first in Europe, and then in America. Such a society is no other than *"a company of men having the form*

*and seeking the power of godliness, united in order to pray together, to receive the word of exhortation, and to watch over one another in love, that they may help each other to work out their salvation."*

¶ 28. That it may the more easily be discerned whether they are indeed working out their own salvation, each Society is divided into smaller companies, called Classes, according to their respective places of abode. There are about twelve persons in a Class, one of whom is styled THE LEADER. It is his duty,

§ 1. To see each person in his Class once a week at least; in order, (1.) To inquire how his soul prospers. (2.) To advise, reprove, comfort, or exhort, as occasion may require. (3.) To receive what he is willing to give toward the relief of the Preachers, Church, and poor.

§ 2. To meet the Ministers and the Stewards of the Society once a week; in order, (1.) To inform the Minister of any that are sick, or of any that walk disorderly and will not be reproved. (2.) To pay the Stewards what he has received of his Class in the week preceding.

¶ 29. There is only one condition previously required of those who desire admission into these Societies—"a desire to flee from the wrath to come, and to be saved from their sins." But wherever this is really fixed in the soul it will be shown by its fruits.

¶ 30. It is therefore expected of all who continue therein that they shall continue to evidence their desire of salvation,

*First:* By doing no harm, by avoiding evil of every kind, especially that which is most generally practiced; such as,

The taking of the name of God in vain.

The profaning the day of the Lord, either by doing ordinary work therein or by buying or selling.

Drunkenness, buying or selling spirituous liquors, or drinking them, unless in cases of extreme necessity.

Slaveholding; buying or selling slaves.

Fighting, quarreling, brawling, brother going to law with brother; returning evil for evil, or railing for railing; the using of many words in buying or selling.

The buying or selling goods that have not paid the duty.

The giving or taking of things on usury—that is, unlawful interest.

Uncharitable or unprofitable conversation; particularly speaking evil of Magistrates or of Ministers.

Doing to others as we would not they should do unto us.

Doing what we know is not for the glory of God, as:

The putting on of gold and costly apparel.

The taking such diversions as cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus.

The singing those songs, or reading those books, which do not tend to the knowledge or love of God.

Softness and needless self-indulgence.

Laying up treasure upon earth.

Borrowing without a probability of paying; or taking up goods without a probability of paying for them.

¶ 31. It is expected of all who continue in these Societies that they shall continue to evidence their desire of salvation,

*Second:* By doing good; by being in every kind

merciful after their power; as they have opportunity, doing good of every possible sort, and, as far as possible, to all men:

To their bodies, of the ability which God giveth, by giving food to the hungry, by clothing the naked, by visiting or helping them that are sick or in prison:

To their souls, by instructing, reproofing, or exhorting all we have any intercourse with; trampling under foot that enthusiastic doctrine, that "we are not to do good unless *our hearts be free to it.*"

By doing good, especially to them that are of the household of faith or groaning so to be; employing them preferably to others; buying one of another; helping each other in business; and so much the more because the world will love its own and them *only*.

By all possible diligence and frugality, that the Gospel be not blamed.

By running with patience the race which is set before them, denying themselves, and taking up their cross daily; submitting to bear the reproach of Christ, to be as the filth and offscouring of the world; and looking that men should say all manner of evil of them *falsely*, for the Lord's sake.

¶ 32. It is expected of all who desire to continue in these Societies that they shall continue to evidence their desire of salvation,

*Third:* By attending upon all the ordinances of God; such are,

The Public Worship of God.

The Ministry of the Word, either read or expounded.

The Supper of the Lord.

## ¶ 33 ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT

Family and private Prayer.

Searching the Scriptures.

Fasting or Abstinence.

¶ 33. These are the General Rules of our Societies; all which we are taught of God to observe, even in his written Word, which is the only rule, and the sufficient rule, both of our faith and practice. And all these we know his Spirit writes on truly awakened hearts. If there be any among us who observes them not, who habitually breaks any of them, let it be known unto them who watch over that soul as they who must give an account. We will admonish him of the error of his ways. We will bear with him for a season. But if then he repent not, he hath no more place among us. We have delivered our own souls.

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### DIVISION III

#### ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT

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##### CHAPTER I

##### Pastoral Charges, Quarterly and Annual Conferences

###### ARTICLE I. *Pastoral Charges*

¶ 34. Members of the Church shall be divided into local Societies, one or more of which shall constitute a Pastoral Charge.

###### ARTICLE II. *Quarterly Conferences*

¶ 35. A Quarterly Conference shall be organized in each Pastoral Charge, and be composed of such

persons and have such power as the General Conference may direct.

ARTICLE III. *Annual Conferences*

¶ 36. The Traveling Preachers shall be organized by the General Conference into Annual Conferences, the sessions of which they are required to attend.

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CHAPTER II

**The General Conference**

ARTICLE I. *How Composed*

¶ 37. The General Conference shall be composed of Ministerial and Lay Delegates, to be chosen as hereinafter provided.

ARTICLE II. *Ministerial Delegates*

¶ 38, § 1. Each Annual Conference shall be entitled to at least one Ministerial Delegate. The General Conference shall not allow more than one Ministerial Delegate for every fourteen Members of an Annual Conference, nor less than one for every forty-five; but for a fraction of two thirds or more of the number fixed by the General Conference as the ratio of representation an Annual Conference shall be entitled to an additional Delegate.

§ 2. The Ministerial Delegates shall be elected by ballot by the Members of the Annual Conference at its session immediately preceding the General Conference. Such Delegates shall be Elders, at least twenty-five years of age, and shall have been Members of an Annual Conference four successive years, and at the time of their election and at the time of

## ¶ 39 ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT

the session of the General Conference shall be Members of the Annual Conference which elected them. An Annual Conference may elect Reserve Delegates, not exceeding three in number, and not exceeding the number of its Delegates.

§ 3. No Minister shall be counted twice in the same year in the basis for the election of Delegates to the General Conference, nor vote in such election where he is not counted, nor vote in two Conferences in the same year on a constitutional question.

### ARTICLE III. *Lay Delegates*

¶ 39, § 1. A Lay Electoral Conference shall be constituted, quadrennially, or whenever duly called by the General Conference, within the bounds of each Annual Conference, for the purpose of electing Lay Delegates to the General Conference, and for the purpose of voting on constitutional changes. It shall be composed of lay members, one from each Pastoral Charge within its bounds, chosen by the lay members of the Charge over twenty-one years of age, in such manner as the General Conference may determine. Each Pastoral Charge shall also elect in the same manner one Reserve Delegate. Members not less than twenty-one years of age, and holding membership in the Pastoral Charges electing them, are eligible to membership in the Lay Electoral Conference.

§ 2. The Lay Electoral Conference shall assemble at the seat of the Annual Conference on the first Friday of the session immediately preceding the General Conference, unless the General Conference shall provide otherwise.

§ 3. The Lay Electoral Conference shall organize

by electing a President and Secretary, shall adopt its own Rules of Order, and shall be the judge of the election, returns, and qualifications of its own members.

§ 4. Each Lay Electoral Conference shall be entitled to elect as many Delegates to the General Conference as there are Ministerial Delegates from the Annual Conference. A Lay Electoral Conference may elect Reserve Delegates, not exceeding three in number, and not exceeding the number of its Delegates. These elections shall be by ballot.

§ 5. Lay members twenty-five years of age, or over, holding membership in Pastoral Charges within the bounds of the Lay Electoral Conference, and having been lay members of the Church five years next preceding, shall be eligible to election to the General Conference. Delegates-elect who cease to be members of the Church within the bounds of the Lay Electoral Conference by which they were elected shall not be entitled to seats in the General Conference.

#### ARTICLE IV. *Credentials*

¶ 40. The Secretaries of the several Annual and Lay Electoral Conferences shall furnish certificates of election to the Delegates severally, and send a certificate of such election to the Secretary of the preceding General Conference immediately after the adjournment of said Annual or Lay Electoral Conference.

#### ARTICLE V. *Sessions*

¶ 41, § 1. The General Conference shall meet at 10 o'clock on the morning of the first secular day in the month of May, in every fourth year from the

date of the first Delegated General Conference—namely, the year of our Lord 1812—and at such place in the United States of America as shall have been determined by the preceding General Conference, or by a Commission to be appointed quadrennially by the General Conference, and acting under its authority; which Commission shall have power also in case of emergency to change the place for the meeting of the General Conference, a majority of the General Superintendents concurring in such change.

§ 2. The General Superintendents, or a majority of them, by and with the advice of two thirds of all the Annual Conferences, shall have the power to call an extra session of the General Conference at any time, constituted in the usual way; such session to be held at such time and place as a majority of the General Superintendents, and also of the above Commission, shall designate.

§ 3. In case of a great emergency two thirds of the General Superintendents may call special sessions of the Annual Conferences, at such time and place as they may think wise, to determine the question of an extra session of the General Conference, or to elect Delegates thereto. They may also in such cases call extra sessions of the Lay Electoral Conferences for the purpose of electing Lay Delegates to the General Conference.

#### ARTICLE VI. *Presiding Officers*

¶ 42, § 1. The General Conference shall elect by ballot from among the Traveling Elders as many General Superintendents as it may deem necessary.

§ 2. The General Superintendents shall preside in

the General Conference in such order as they may determine; but if no General Superintendent be present, the General Conference shall elect one of its members to preside *pro tempore*.

§ 3. The presiding officer of the General Conference shall decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the General Conference; but questions of law shall be decided by the General Conference.

### ARTICLE VII. *Organization*

¶ 43. When the time for opening the General Conference arrives the presiding officer shall take the chair, and direct the Secretary of the preceding General Conference, or in his absence one of his assistants, to call the roll of the Delegates-elect. Those who have been duly returned shall be recognized as members, their certificates of election being *prima facie* evidence of their right to membership; provided, however, that in case of a challenge of any person thus enrolled, such challenge being signed by at least six Delegates from the territory of as many different Annual Conferences, three such Delegates being Ministers and three Laymen, the person so challenged shall not participate in the proceedings of the General Conference, except to speak on his own case, until the question of his right shall have been decided. The General Conference shall be the judge of the election, returns, and qualifications of its own members.

### ARTICLE VIII. *Quorum*

¶ 44. When the General Conference is in session it shall require the presence of two thirds of the

## ¶ 45 ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT

whole number of Delegates to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business; but a less number may take a recess or adjourn from day to day in order to secure a quorum, and at the final session may approve the Journal, order the record of the roll call, and adjourn *sine die*.

### ARTICLE IX. *Voting*

¶ 45. The Ministerial and Lay Delegates shall deliberate together as one body. They shall also vote together as one body with the following exception: A separate vote shall be taken on any question when requested by one third of either order of Delegates present and voting. In all cases of separate voting it shall require the concurrence of the two orders to adopt the proposed measure; except that for changes of the Constitution a vote of two thirds of the General Conference shall be sufficient, as provided in Article XI.

### ARTICLE X. *Powers and Restrictions*

¶ 46. The General Conference shall have full power to make rules and regulations for the Church under the following limitations and restrictions, namely:

§ 1. The General Conference shall not revoke, alter, nor change our Articles of Religion, nor establish any new standards or rules of doctrine contrary to our present existing and established standards of doctrine.

§ 2. The General Conference shall not organize nor authorize the organization of an Annual Conference with less than twenty-five members.

§ 3. The General Conference shall not change nor alter any part or rule of our government so as to do

away Episcopacy, nor destroy the plan of our itinerant General Superintendency; but may elect a Missionary Bishop or Superintendent for any of our foreign Missions, limiting his Episcopal jurisdiction to the same respectively.

§ 4. The General Conference shall not revoke nor change the General Rules of our Church.

§ 5. The General Conference shall not deprive our Ministers of the right of trial by the Annual Conference, or by a select number thereof, nor of an appeal; nor shall it deprive our members of the right of trial by a committee of members of our Church, nor of an appeal.

§ 6. The General Conference shall not appropriate the produce of the Book Concern, nor of the Chartered Fund, to any purpose other than for the benefit of the Traveling, Supernumerary, and Superannuated<sup>1</sup> Preachers, their wives, widows, and children.

#### ARTICLE XI. *Amendments*

¶ 47. The concurrent recommendation of two thirds of all the members of the several Annual Conferences present and voting, and of two thirds of all the members of the Lay Electoral Conferences present and voting, shall suffice to authorize the next ensuing General Conference by a two thirds vote to alter or amend any of the provisions of this Constitution excepting Article X, § 1; and also, whenever such alteration or amendment shall have been first recommended by a General Conference by a two thirds vote, then so soon as two thirds of all the members of the several Annual Conferences present

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<sup>1</sup> Elsewhere designated as "Retired" Ministers.

## ¶ 47 ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT

and voting, and two thirds of all the members of the Lay Electoral Conferences present and voting, shall have concurred therein, such alteration or amendment shall take effect; and the result of the vote shall be announced by the General Superintendents.

## END OF THE CONSTITUTION

# **LEGISLATION**

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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**PART I**  
**THE CHURCH**

- I. MEMBERSHIP**
- II. SPECIAL ADVICES**
- III. WORSHIP**

## CHAPTER I

### MEMBERSHIP

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#### I. Admission into the Church

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¶ 48, § 1. In order that the doors of the Church may not be closed to any person seeking to be saved from his sins, and yet the Church be properly safeguarded against the hasty admission of any unworthy person; and in order that all those who have not had previous instruction in the doctrines of the Church may have the advantages of its means of grace, the ritual shall provide two forms for the reception of members.

§ 2. Preparatory Membership.<sup>1</sup> All persons expressing a desire to lead a godly life may be received into preparatory membership according to the form in the ritual, ¶ 526, in which preparatory membership they shall be given instruction by the Pastor, or properly appointed leaders, in the principles of the Christian life, as well as in the rules and regulations of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Such members shall be entitled to all the privileges of the Church, but may not become members of the Quarterly Conference, nor take part in judicial proceedings except as witnesses.

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<sup>1</sup> The probationary relation is required as a condition precedent to reception into Full Membership. The period of probation is no longer of definite length, but the probationary (preparatory) membership is imperative.—Ruling of the Bishops, approved 1912.

§ 3. Full Membership. All baptized members under instruction giving satisfactory evidence of the correctness of their faith and of their knowledge of the rules and regulations of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall upon recommendation of the Official Board or the Board of Stewards and the approval of the Pastor be received into full membership, according to the forms in the ritual, ¶¶ 527, 528.

§ 4. A member in good standing in any orthodox evangelical Church who desires to unite with us may be received into full membership upon giving satisfactory answers to the usual inquiries.

§ 5. An accurate record of membership, including all changes of relation in the same, shall be kept; each entry to bear its proper date, and the Pastor shall report all such changes in membership at each Quarterly Conference. Every Pastor shall keep, in connection with the Church records, a constituency roll, containing the names and addresses of all persons related to the membership of his Church and Sunday School, either by kinship or preference.

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## II. Baptized Children and the Church

¶ 49. We hold that all children, by virtue of the unconditional benefits of the atonement, are members of the Kingdom of God, and therefore graciously entitled to Baptism; but, as infant Baptism contemplates a course of religious instruction and discipline, it is expected of all parents or guardians who present their children for Baptism that they will use all diligence in bringing them up in conformity to the Word of God; and they should be

solemnly admonished of this obligation and earnestly exhorted to faithfulness therein.

¶ 50. We regard all children who have been baptized as placed in visible covenant relation to God and as preparatory members under the special care and supervision of the Church.

¶ 51. The Pastor shall make an accurate register of the names of all the baptized children within his pastoral care, giving the dates of their birth and baptism, the names of their parents, and the places of their residence. He shall also enroll their names as preparatory members; and should they remove, he shall issue Certificates of Registration to the Pastor of the Charge within whose bounds they have moved.

¶ 52. The Pastor shall organize the baptized children of the Church when they shall have reached the age of ten years, or at an earlier age when it is deemed advisable, into classes or Junior Epworth League Chapters, and appoint suitable leaders, whose duty it shall be to meet them once a week and instruct them in the nature, design, and obligations of Baptism, and in the truths of religion necessary to make them "wise unto salvation"; to urge them to give regular attendance upon the means of grace; to advise, exhort, and encourage them to an immediate consecration of their hearts and lives to God, and to inquire into the state of their religious experience; provided, that unbaptized children shall not be excluded from such classes or Junior Epworth League Chapters.

¶ 53. Whenever baptized children shall understand the obligations of religion and shall give evidence of piety, they may be admitted into membership in the Church, on recommendation of the Offi-

cial Board or the Leaders and Stewards' Meeting, with the approval of the Pastor, after publicly assenting before the Church to the Baptismal Covenant and to the usual questions on Doctrines and Discipline, as prescribed in the Ritual.

¶ 54. Whenever a baptized child shall be deprived of Christian guardianship, by orphanage or otherwise, the Pastor shall ascertain and report the facts in the case to the Official Board or to the Leaders and Stewards' Meeting; and such provision shall be made for the Christian training of the child as the circumstances of the case shall admit or require.

### III. Transfer of Membership

¶ 55, § 1. An acceptable member of the Church desiring to remove his membership from one Pastoral Charge to another is entitled to be transferred as follows: The Pastor, or, if there be no Pastor, the District Superintendent, shall send to the Pastor of the Charge to which the member is to be transferred a Certificate in the following form:

*"This is to certify that A. B., who holds a notice of this letter, is an acceptable Member of the..... Methodist Episcopal Church in.....and, having requested that his membership be transferred to the.....Methodist Episcopal Church in .....is affectionately commended to the fellowship of said Church. When the Church to which this Certificate of Transfer is issued acknowledges the receipt of the same and his enrollment, his membership in this Church shall cease."*

§ 2. Notice of this transfer shall be given to the member in accordance with the following form:

*"At your request I this day have sent a Certificate of Transfer of your membership to the..... Methodist Episcopal Church in..... When said Certificate is acknowledged and your name is recorded in the records of said Church, your membership in this Church will cease."*

§ 3. The original Certificate shall be accompanied by a blank for the acknowledgment of the same, in accordance with the following form:

*"The Certificate of Transfer of the membership of A. B. from the..... Methodist Episcopal Church in..... to the..... Methodist Episcopal Church in..... is hereby acknowledged. .... has been duly received as a Member of this Church and thereby ceases to be a Member of the Church which issued the Certificate.*

*..... Pastor."*

§ 4. A complete record of each transfer shall be kept on the stub in the Certificate book in the following form:

*Name of member requesting transfer.....  
Charge to which the Certificate is issued.....  
Date on which Certificate is issued.....  
Date of acknowledgment of Certificate and actual transfer of membership.....  
Name of Pastor or District Superintendent issuing Certificate .....  
Name of Pastor or District Superintendent acknowledging Certificate .....*

§ 5. When a Pastor shall have received a member

on said Certificate, he shall notify the Pastor of the Church from which it was issued on the blank form which accompanies Certificate, as provided in § 3.

§ 6. Whenever a Pastor is appointed to another Charge he may complete the record of his pastorate by entering in the Church Record opposite the names of the members of his family who are Church members: "*Member of Pastor's family, transferred to.....*"; and enter the names on the Record of his new Charge with the note: "*Member of Pastor's family, transferred from.....*"

¶ 56, § 1. A Certificate of Membership shall not be refused, if demanded by a member removing his residence to another charge, except for reasons that justify judicial proceedings against such member. A Certificate of Transfer shall not be given unless an actual change in the place of holding membership is intended.

§ 2. A Pastor may give a note of recommendation to any member who wishes to unite with any other Evangèlical Denomination.

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#### IV. Affiliated Members

¶ 57. When any of our young people, who are Church members, are absent from home attending school, they may, upon application, be enrolled as affiliated members in the Methodist Episcopal Church where the school is located, and by such membership shall be entitled to the proper privileges of such Church and to its pastoral oversight, and to engage in its active service, but they shall be counted and reported only in the membership of their home Churches.

### **V. Non-Resident Membership**

¶ 58. Whenever the residence of a member who has removed cannot be ascertained by the Pastor or the Committee on Church Records for a period of at least one year, such member shall be recorded as "non-resident" and shall not be counted in the returns of Full Membership, but shall be reported in a separate column in the statistics. If the residence of such member cannot be ascertained for a period of three years he shall no longer be counted in the statistical returns, and the Pastor shall write after his name, "Removed without Certificate."

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### **VI. Withdrawals**

¶ 59, § 1. When any member in good standing proposes to withdraw from the Methodist Episcopal Church he shall communicate his purpose in writing to the Pastor of the Church. On receiving such notice of withdrawal, the Pastor shall enter the fact of withdrawal upon the record of Church Membership; and such withdrawal cannot be retracted except by consent of the Pastor and the Quarterly Conference.

§ 2. Membership in the Church can be terminated only by the withdrawal, expulsion, or death of a member. A member of the Church who has united with another denomination without a Note of Recommendation shall be recorded as "Withdrawn."

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### **VII. Classes and Class Meetings and Units for Prayer and Service**

¶ 60. The design of the organization of Classes

or Units for prayer and service and the appointment of Leaders is:

§ 1. To establish a system of pastoral oversight that shall effectively reach every member and constituent of the Church with the entire program of the Church — spiritual, evangelistic, social, educational, and financial.

§ 2. To encourage and support such meetings for social and religious worship and for instruction in Church plans and activities as shall be a profitable means of grace to the Church, and a means of developing intelligent loyalty to all Church enterprises.

¶ 61, § 1. The primary object of distributing the members of the Church into Classes or Units, in addition to securing the subpastoral oversight made necessary by our itinerant economy, is to enroll every member in definite prayer and service in furthering the constructive program of the Church.

§ 2. Let the Classes or Units, wherever practicable, be composed of about twenty members of the Church with such constituents as naturally belong in the Class or Unit, and let the Class Leader or Unit Leader report at each Quarterly Conference the condition of his Class or Unit as follows:

1. Number of members in the Class or Unit.
2. Number of preparatory members.
3. Number of constituents.
4. Number of Class or Unit meetings held.
5. Average attendance.
6. Number who contribute to the support of the Church.
7. Number of Church papers taken.
8. Number of calls made by Leader and assistants.

9. Number of families in the Class or Unit, and the number who observe family worship.

10. Number enrolled in Study Classes.

11. Number of tithing Stewards.

12. Miscellaneous matters.

§ 3. Let each Leader be careful to inquire how every member of his Class or Unit prospers; not only how each person outwardly cooperates in the work of the Church, but also how he grows in the knowledge and love of God.

§ 4. Let the Leaders converse with their Pastor frequently and freely.

¶ 62. In the arrangement of Class or Unit meetings two or more Classes or Units may meet together and be conducted according to such plan as shall be agreed upon by the Leaders in council with the Pastor.

¶ 63, § 1. In order to render the work of the Classes or Units interesting and profitable, let the Pastor remove improper Leaders and see that all the Leaders are of sound judgment and truly devoted to God. Leaders shall be appointed for one year subject to reappointment as the interests of the Class or Unit may require.

§ 2. A Class Leader or a Unit Leader shall not be approved as a member of the Quarterly Conference on the basis of such leadership unless actually leading a Class or Unit.

¶ 64. Let the Leaders be directed to such a course of reading and study as best shall qualify them for their work. Especially let such books be recommended as will tend to increase their knowledge of the Scriptures and make them familiar with those passages best adapted to spiritual instruction. In

addition let such books and periodicals be recommended as will acquaint them with all phases of Church activity. Whenever practicable let the Pastors examine the Leaders in the studies recommended.<sup>1</sup>

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## CHAPTER II

### SPECIAL ADVICES

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#### I. Slavery

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¶ 65. We declare that we are as much as ever convinced of the great evil of Slavery. We believe that the buying, selling, or holding of human beings as chattels is contrary to the laws of God and nature, and inconsistent with the Golden Rule, and with that Rule in our Discipline which requires all who desire to continue among us to "do no harm," and to "avoid evil of every kind." We therefore affectionately admonish all our Ministers and people to keep themselves pure from this great evil, and to seek its extirpation by all lawful and Christian means.

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#### II. Dress

¶ 66. Let all our people be exhorted to conform to the spirit of the apostolic precept, not to adorn themselves "with gold, or pearls, or costly array" (1 Tim. 2. 9).

#### III. Marriage

¶ 67, § 1. We do not prohibit our people from

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<sup>1</sup> For the Course of Study for Leaders, see Appendix, ¶ 630.

marrying persons who are not of our Church, provided such persons have the form, and are seeking the power, of godliness; but we are determined to discourage their marrying persons who do not come up to this description. Many of our members have married unawakened persons. This has produced bad effects; they either have been hindered for life, or have turned back to perdition.

§ 2. To discourage such marriages, 1. Let every Minister publicly enforce the Apostle's caution, "Be not unequally yoked with unbelievers" (2 Cor. 6. 14). 2. Let all be exhorted to take no step in so weighty a matter without advising with the more serious of their brethren.

§ 3. In general, a woman ought not to marry without the consent of her parents. Yet there may be exceptions. For if, 1. A woman believes it to be her duty to marry; if, 2. Her parents absolutely refuse to let her marry any Christian; then she may, nay, ought to marry without their consent. Yet even then a Methodist Minister ought not to be married to her.

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#### IV. Divorce

¶ 68. No divorce, except for adultery, shall be regarded by the Church as lawful; and no Minister shall solemnize marriage in any case where there is a divorced wife or husband living; but this rule shall not be applied to the innocent party to a divorce for the cause of adultery, nor to divorced parties seeking to be reunited in marriage.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>The provisions of this paragraph are not merely advisory, but obligatory, see ¶ 264, § 1.

**V. Amusements**

¶ 69, § 1. Improper amusements and excessive indulgence in innocent amusements are serious barriers to the beginning of the religious life and fruitful causes of spiritual decline. Some amusements in common use are positively demoralizing and furnish the first easy steps to the total loss of character. We therefore look with deep concern on the great increase of amusements and on the general prevalence of harmful amusements, and lift up a solemn note of warning and entreaty, particularly against theater-going, dancing, and such games of chance as are frequently associated with gambling; all of which have been found to be antagonistic to vital piety, promotive of worldliness, and especially pernicious to youth. We affectionately admonish all our people to make their amusements the subject of careful thought and frequent prayer, to study the subject of amusements in the light of their tendencies, and to be scrupulously careful in this matter to set no injurious example. We adjure them to remember that often the question for a Christian must be, not whether a certain course of action is positively immoral, but whether it will dull the spiritual life and be an unwise example. We direct all our Bishops, District Superintendents, and Pastors to call attention to this subject with solemn urgency in our Annual and Quarterly Conferences and in all our pulpits; and our Editors, Sunday School Officers, Epworth League Officers, and Class Leaders, to aid in abating the evils we deplore. We deem it our bounden duty to summon the whole Church to apply a thoughtful and instructed conscience to

the choice of amusements, and not to leave them to accident, or taste, or passion; and we affectionately advise and beseech every member of the Church absolutely to avoid "the taking such diversions as cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus."

§ 2. While we are aware that improper amusements are a "fruitful source of spiritual decline," we also believe that the social and recreational instinct is God-given and, if properly guided, will strengthen rather than injure the spiritual life. The Church must no longer allow her youth to "go into nearby villages and buy themselves the victuals of social life," but, rather, should say, "Sit down and eat" of the clean, wholesome things provided by the Church, which seeks to build a social and recreational life that is spiritual and a spiritual life that is social and recreational.

We commend, therefore, the successful work done in the Epworth League Institutes and the social and recreational activities conducted by the Sunday School as pointing toward a sane solution of the whole question of recreation and amusement for our young people, and we earnestly urge our pastors and churchès everywhere to plan wisely and diligently for the social and recreational life of the youth of the Church. We plead for the recognition of all indoor and outdoor games and sports that are innocent, clean, and wholesome, that they may be utilized to the highest possible degree in gripping not only the social life of our young people, but their moral and spiritual life as well. We advise that whenever possible our Churches be provided with such space and equipment as, under properly chosen and directed leaders, will build up the finest type of social

life, that wide-open doors and wide-open hearts may find the way to foster a social conscience that will satisfy and yet always lead upward, as we seek thus seriously and prayerfully to provide for all our people, young and old, "such diversions as can be used in the name of the Lord Jesus."

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## VI. Temperance

¶ 70, § 1. Temperance, in its broader meaning, is distinctively a Christian virtue, enjoined in the Holy Scriptures. It requires the subordination of all the emotions, passions, and appetites to the control of reason and conscience. Dietetically, it means a wise use of suitable articles of food and drink, with entire abstinence from such as are known to be hurtful. Both science and human experience agree with the Holy Scriptures in condemning all alcoholic beverages as being neither useful nor safe. The business of manufacturing and of vending such liquors is also against the principles of morality, political economy, and the public welfare. We therefore regard voluntary total abstinence from all intoxicants as the obligation of the citizen and the complete legal prohibition of the traffic in alcoholic drinks as the duty of civil government. We heartily approve all lawful and Christian efforts to save society from the manifold and grievous evils resulting from intemperance, and earnestly advise our people to cooperate with all measures which may seem to them wisely adapted to secure that end. We refer to our General Rule on this subject (¶ 30), and affectionately urge its strict observance by all our members. Finally, we are fully persuaded that, under God, hope for the

ultimate success of the Temperance Reform rests chiefly upon the combined and sanctified influence of the Family, the Church, and the State.

§ 2. We record our solemn judgment that the habitual use of tobacco is a practice out of harmony with the best Christian life. In the interest of a larger Christian influence and service we urge our members to abstain from the use of cigarettes and of tobacco in all other forms.

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## VII. Christian Stewardship

¶ 71, § 1. Life is a stewardship; this is the teaching of Jesus Christ. Fundamentally, this teaching throughout the Scriptures is based on God's ownership, both by creation and redemption. Thus, stewardship becomes the Christian interpretation of life itself and is concerned with the Christian's use of all the resources committed to him, of possessions, of personality, of prayer.

§ 2. The following principles of stewardship should be recognized by the individual Christians:

### A. *Of Possessions*

- (1) God is the Sovereign Owner of all things.
- (2) God invites men to subdue the earth and possess it.
- (3) Man is a Steward, to acquire and administer his possessions as a sacred trust.
- (4) God's sovereign ownership and man's stewardship ought to be acknowledged.
- (5) This acknowledgment requires as its material expression the setting apart, as an act of worship, of a separated portion of income.

(6) Biblical history records the setting apart of the tenth of income as that acknowledgment, and indicates a divine sanction for the practice and the amount.

(7) The separated portion ought systematically to be administered for the kingdom of God, and the balance of income treated as no less a trust.

### *B. Of Personality*

(1) God is the Supreme Person in a world of persons.

(2) God invites every person to become a partaker of the divine nature.

(3) Man has nothing which he did not receive; he is therefore a steward of every worthy element of personality by him possessed.

(4) This stewardship is acknowledged by worship and the giving of thanks.

(5) It is administered by rendering personal human service.

(6) The stewardship of personality is best administered by setting apart a definite portion of time for Christian service, and by undertaking definite tasks of human helpfulness.

### *C. Of Prayer*

(1) All authority has been given unto Jesus Christ.

(2) Jesus Christ invites his friends to ask anything in his name and it shall be done.

(3) Christian prayer is therefore a stewardship of authority intrusted by Jesus to his friends.

(4) This stewardship is acknowledged when the friendship of Jesus is accepted.

(5) It is administered by asking intelligently according to the will of God.

(6) The stewardship of prayer is best administered by setting apart a definite portion of time for prayer, and by observing a thoughtful program of prayer as one who would know what his Lord doeth.

§ 3. The following methods should be pursued by the individual Christian who would administer wisely his stewardship of material possessions:

(1) Upon receipt of income, the portion intended as the acknowledgment of God's ownership should first be separated in compliance with the foregoing principles.

(2) In the administration of the separated portion, the division should be in harmony with the needs of the budgets of the local Church.

(3) Weekly payments, as far as possible, should be offered as an act of worship at the public service.

(4) There should be careful, intelligent, personal, and prayerful consideration of the uses to be made of the remainder of income and wealth; this will require study of the local, national, and worldwide program of the Church, and of the full responsibilities of life itself.

## CHAPTER III

### WORSHIP

#### I. Order of Public Worship

¶ 72, § 1. Let all services begin exactly at the time appointed, and let the people kneel in silent prayer on entering the sanctuary.

I. [VOLUNTARY, instrumental or vocal.]<sup>1</sup>

II. SINGING from the METHODIST HYMNAL, the People standing.

III. [THE APOSTLES' CREED, recited by all, standing.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth :

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord ; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried ; the third day he rose from the dead ; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty ; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost ; the holy catholic<sup>2</sup> Church, the communion of saints ; the forgiveness of sins ; the resurrection of the body ; and the life everlasting. Amen.]

IV. PRAYER, concluding with the LORD'S PRAYER, repeated audibly by all, both Minister and People kneeling.

V. [ANTHEM, or VOLUNTARY.]

VI. LESSON from the OLD TESTAMENT, which may be read responsively, the People standing.

VII. [The GLORIA PATRI :

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.]

VIII. LESSON from the NEW TESTAMENT.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

X. WORSHIP in the presentation of tithes and offerings ; during or after which an Offertory may be rendered.

XI. SINGING from the METHODIST HYMNAL, the People standing.

XII. The SERMON.

XIII. PRAYER, the People kneeling.

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<sup>1</sup> Parts inclosed in brackets may be used or omitted.

<sup>2</sup> The one universal Church of Christ.

XIV. SINGING from the METHODIST HYMNAL, the People standing.

XV. DOXOLOGY and the APOSTOLIC BENEDICTION. (2 Cor. 13: 14.)

§ 2. At the service during which the Sacraments are administered any of the items of the preceding order may be omitted except singing, prayer, and the apostolic benediction.

§ 3. Let the people be earnestly exhorted to take part in the public worship of God; first, by singing; second, by prayer, in the scriptural attitude of kneeling, and by the repetition of the Lord's Prayer.

## II. The Spirit and Truth of Singing

¶ 73. To guard against formality in singing:

§1. Choose such hymns as are proper for the occasion, and do not sing too much at once; seldom more than four or five stanzas.

§ 2. Let the tune be suited to the sentiment, and do not suffer the people to sing too slowly.

§ 3. In every Congregation let due attention be given to the cultivation of sacred music.

§ 4. Should the Pastor desire it, let the Quarterly Conference appoint annually a Committee of three or more of which the Pastor shall be chairman, which, cooperating with him, shall regulate all matters relating to this part of divine worship. The action of said Committee shall be subject in every respect to the control of the Quarterly Conference.

§ 5. As singing is a part of divine worship in which all ought to unite, therefore exhort every person in the Congregation to sing.

and the other two are the same as the first.

The first is the same as the second.

The second is the same as the third.

The third is the same as the fourth.

The fourth is the same as the fifth.

The fifth is the same as the sixth.

The sixth is the same as the seventh.

The seventh is the same as the eighth.

The eighth is the same as the ninth.

The ninth is the same as the tenth.

The tenth is the same as the eleventh.

The eleventh is the same as the twelfth.

The twelfth is the same as the thirteenth.

The thirteenth is the same as the fourteenth.

The fourteenth is the same as the fifteenth.

The fifteenth is the same as the sixteenth.

The sixteenth is the same as the seventeenth.

The seventeenth is the same as the eighteenth.

The eighteenth is the same as the nineteenth.

The nineteenth is the same as the twentieth.

## **PART II**

# **THE CONFERENCES**

- I. GENERAL CONFERENCE**
- II. ANNUAL CONFERENCES**
- III. LAY ELECTORAL CONFERENCES**
- IV. CENTRAL MISSION CONFERENCES**
- V. MISSION CONFERENCES**
- VI. DISTRICT CONFERENCES**
- VII. QUARTERLY CONFERENCES**
- VIII. OFFICIAL BOARD**
- IX. LEADERS AND STEWARDS' MEETING**  
**[For JUDICIAL CONFERENCE, see ¶ 292]**

## CHAPTER I

### GENERAL CONFERENCE

The Composition, Organization, Powers, and Restrictions of the General Conference are set forth in the CONSTITUTION of the Church, Division III, Chapter II, ¶¶ 37-47.

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## CHAPTER II

### ANNUAL CONFERENCES

#### I. Number and Organization

¶ 74, § 1. There are now one hundred and thirty-four Annual Conferences, and these shall become severally bodies corporate, wherever practicable, under the authority of the laws of the States and Territories within whose bounds they are located.

§ 2. For the purpose of representation on the Book Committee, the Administrative Boards, and Committees in the General Conference the Annual Conferences shall be grouped into as many General Conference Districts as the General Conference from time to time shall determine. For the present grouping, see Appendix, ¶ 568.

¶ 75. All Members of an Annual Conference and those on Trial therein shall attend its sessions.

¶ 76. The Bishops shall appoint the times for holding the Annual Conferences; but they shall allow each Annual Conference to sit one week at least.

¶ 77. Each Annual Conference shall appoint the

place of its own session; but should it become necessary, from any unforeseen cause, to change the place of its session after it has been fixed by the Conference, the Pastor or Pastors in the place where the Conference was appointed to be held, and the District Superintendent, shall have power to make such change. But this authority shall not be exercised without first consulting the other District Superintendents of the Conference so far as practicable.

¶ 78. A Bishop shall preside in the Annual Conference. In case no Bishop is present, a member of the Conference, appointed by the Bishop, shall preside. But if no appointment be made, or if the person appointed shall not attend, the Conference shall elect by ballot, without debate, a President from among the Elders.

¶ 79. A record of the proceedings of each Annual Conference shall be kept by a Secretary chosen for the purpose, and shall be signed by the President and Secretary; and a copy of said record shall be sent to the General Conference for examination. Journals not properly attested cannot be approved by the General Conference.<sup>1</sup>

## II. Order of Business

¶ 80. The business of the Annual Conference is to inquire:

§ 1. Is this Annual Conference Incorporated according to the requirement of the Discipline?

§ 2. Who have been Received by Transfer, and from what Conferences?

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<sup>1</sup> See Appendix, ¶ 569.

## § 3. Who have been Readmitted?

NOTE.—Enter date of Location and the Conference which granted it.

## § 4. Who have been Received on Credentials, and from what Churches?

## § 5. Who have been Received on Trial?

(a) In studies of First Year.

(b) In studies of Third Year (under Seminary Rule). ¶ 176, § 2.

## § 6. Who have been Continued on Trial?

(a) In studies of First Year.

(b) In studies of Second Year.

(c) In studies of Third Year.

(d) In studies of Fourth Year.

## § 7. Who have been Discontinued?

## § 8. Who have been Admitted into Full Membership?

(a) Elected and ordained Deacons this year.

(b) Elected and ordained Deacons previously.

(c) Elected and ordained Deacons under Seminary Rule. ¶ 176, § 2.

## § 9. What Members are in studies of Third Year?

(a) Admitted into Full Membership this year.

(b) Admitted into Full Membership previously.

## § 10. What Members are in studies of Fourth Year?

## § 11. What Members have completed the Conference Course of Study?

(a) Elected and ordained Elders this year.

(b) Elected and ordained Elders previously.

(c) Elected and ordained Elders under the Seminary Rule. ¶ 179, § 3.

§ 12. What others have been elected and ordained Deacons?

(a) As Local Preachers. ¶ 176, § 1.

(b) Under Missionary Rule. ¶ 176, § 4.

§ 13. What others have been elected and ordained Elders?

(a) As Local Deacons. ¶ 179, § 1.

(b) Under Missionary Rule. ¶ 179, § 4.

§ 14. Was the character of each Preacher examined?

§ 15. Who have been Transferred, and to what Conferences?

§ 16. Who have Died?

§ 17. Who have been Located at their own request?

§ 18. Who have been Located?

§ 19. Who have Withdrawn?

§ 20. Who have been permitted to Withdraw under Charges or Complaints?

§ 21. Who have been Expelled?

§ 22. What other Personal Notation should be made?

NOTE.—Enter the names of (1) Those whose Orders have been recognized without admission to the Annual Conference. (2) Those whose Credentials have been restored. (3) Those formerly expelled, but now restored by the action of a Judicial Conference or of the General Conference. Indicate class by use of numeral (1), (2), or (3), as above.

§ 23. Who are the Supernumerary Ministers, and for what number of years consecutively has each held this relation?

§ 24. Who are the Retired Ministers?

§ 25. Who are the Triers of Appeals?

§ 26. What is the Annual Report of the Conference Board of Home Missions and Church Extension?

§ 27. What is the Annual Report of the Conference Board of Foreign Missions?

§ 28. What is the Statistical Report?

§ 29. What is the Conference Treasurer's Report?

§ 30. (a) What is the aggregate of the Benevolent Collections ordered by the General Conference, as reported by the Conference Treasurer?

(b) What is the aggregate of the Benevolent Collections ordered by the Annual Conference, as reported by the Conference Treasurer?

§ 31. What are the claims on the Conference Funds?

For annuity distribution.....years multiplied by the Disciplinary rate of \$..... per year, \$.....

For necessitous distribution, - - - \$.....

Total, - - - - - \$.....

§ 32. What has been received on these claims, and how has it been applied?

From the Book Concern, - - - \$.....

From the Chartered Fund, - - - \$.....

From Board of Conference Claimants, \$.....

From Annual Conference Investments, \$.....

From Pastoral Charges, - - - \$.....

Total, - - - - - \$.....

§ 33. What amount has been apportioned to the Pastoral Charges within the Conference, to be raised for the Support of Conference Claimants? ¶ 337.

§ 34. What amount has been paid by the Conference Treasurer to the Board of Conference Claimants for Connectional Relief? - - - \$.....

§ 35. Where are the Preachers stationed?

§ 36. Where shall the next Conference be held?

### III. Powers and Duties

¶ 81, § 1. Each Annual Conference shall elect a Committee on Conference Relations. The Conference

shall arrange, so far as practicable, to constitute the committee in classes to serve three years each.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the committee to examine all applicants for reception on trial as to their age, health, education, relation in life, and it shall secure in its permanent record from each applicant his written answers to the following questions; and in the form herein prescribed: (1) Are you in debt so as to embarrass you in the work of the Ministry? Answer: No. (2) Will you wholly abstain from the use of tobacco? Answer: Yes.

§ 3. All candidates for admission to Full Membership shall appear before this committee and be examined as in the case of reception on trial.

§ 4. No member of the Conference shall have his relation changed until he has had opportunity to have his case presented to this committee, in person or by a representative.

§ 5. Any case involving ordination or recognition of orders may be referred to this committee by the Annual Conference.

§ 6. This committee shall make a recommendation to the Conference in each case, unless the application be withdrawn.

§ 7. In Conferences so large as to make it necessary, a Committee on Ministerial Qualifications may be elected to which may be referred sections two and three.

¶ 82. An Annual Conference has power to hear complaints against its members, and may try, reprove, suspend, deprive of Ministerial Office and Credentials, expel or acquit any against whom charges may have been preferred. ¶¶ 252-269.

¶ 83. The Election and, so far as it is practicable,

the Ordination of Elders and Deacons shall be at the Annual Conference. ¶¶ 174-181.

¶ 84. Each Annual Conference shall appoint annually for each District, a District Board of Church Location and Erection, whose powers and duties are defined in ¶ 448.

¶ 85. Each Annual Conference shall carefully meet the obligations laid upon it in connection with all our benevolent causes.

¶ 86. Each Annual Conference shall appoint a Committee on Periodicals, Publications, and Collections, whose powers and duties are defined in ¶ 392, § 1.

¶ 87. In each Annual Conference, the Bishop presiding shall inquire of each Pastor if he has carried out the Disciplinary plan for the support of the ministry and the benevolent causes; and of each District Superintendent, if he has required the pro rata distribution of the moneys received for Ministerial Support and has urged in the Quarterly Conferences the collection in full for all the benevolent causes.

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#### IV. Statistician and Treasurer

¶ 88. That the Statistics may be accurately reported and the Benevolent Collections duly accounted for, let the following rules be observed:

§ 1. Each Annual Conference shall appoint a Statistician and a Conference Treasurer one year in advance of the Conference session at which they shall begin to serve. Their names and addresses shall be printed at the head of its Statistical Tables in the General Minutes and also in the Methodist Year Book in the year of service.

§ 2. On the first day of the Conference session

each Pastor shall present his Statistical and Financial Reports, correctly and plainly written, all collections and other moneys being reported in dollars only, without fractions thereof.

§ 3. An Annual Conference may allow a Pastor to present a separate report for each Church or Society in his Pastoral Charge.

§ 4. In connection with this report of the amount collected for each benevolent cause, the Pastor shall deliver to the Conference Treasurer either the money thus collected or a satisfactory voucher for the same; and the credit given to his Pastoral Charge shall correspond exactly with the money and vouchers thus delivered.

§ 5. At the opening of the second day's session the Bishop presiding shall call upon the Statistician and the Conference Treasurer respectively to read the names of all Pastoral Charges from which reports have not been received, or from which incorrect or defective reports have been received. This call shall be made at the beginning of each day's session until correct reports have been received from every Pastoral Charge.

§ 6. In case any Pastoral Charge fail to make a report the Statistician shall insert the report for the preceding year and shall indicate this fact by placing the figures in brackets.

§ 7. When the name of a Pastoral Charge has been changed the Statistician and Conference Treasurer shall print the former name in parenthesis under the present name.

§ 8. The Conference Treasurer shall receive and account for such other moneys, additional to the regular benevolent collections, as the Conference may

direct; and an Auditing Committee, appointed by the Conference, shall audit his accounts.

§ 9. When the provisions of §§ 2 and 4 shall have been complied with the Conference Treasurer shall return the "Conference Treasurer's Report" to the Pastor, with the word "Credited" either written or stamped over the Treasurer's signature, as a voucher to be delivered by the Pastor to the Quarterly Conference of the contributing charge.

¶ 89, § 1. The Publishing Agents shall provide, (1) Statistical Blanks for the Pastor and Statistician; (2) Treasurer's Blanks for the Pastor and Conference Treasurer, together with suitable envelopes; (3) Blanks for the Accounts of the Statistician and the Conference Treasurer.

§ 2. All blanks and forms for report and record in the Annual and Quarterly Conferences shall be prepared by the Council of Boards of Benevolence and shall be in as simple form as possible.

§ 3. Application for blanks for distribution among the Pastors and for the Statistician's and Conference Treasurer's Accounts should be made to The Methodist Book Concern, New York, by the Secretaries of the Annual Conferences. Orders for the *Spring Conferences* should be made by October first, and will be filled by December first. Orders for the *Fall Conferences* should be made by March first and will be filled by June first. Applications should state the name of the Annual Conference, the number of Districts, the number of Pastoral Charges, and how many Districts have more than sixty Pastoral Charges.

¶ 90, § 1. The Statistical Report of the Pastor to the Annual Conference shall be presented according to the form prescribed in ¶ 91.

§ 2. The several Annual Conferences shall publish both the Statistical Report (except the "Sunday School Statistics," which are prepared for the use of the Board of Sunday Schools) and the Conference Treasurer's Report.

§ 3. The Statisticians and Treasurers of the Conferences and Missions shall forward their Reports to the Publishing Agent at New York as soon after adjournment as practicable. The Statisticians also shall send the "Sunday School Statistics" to the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Sunday Schools, Chicago.

§ 4. The amount raised for "Ministerial Support" shall include the several sums raised for the support of the Pastor, the support of Conference Claimants, the support of the District Superintendent, and the support of the Bishops; also house rent paid for the Pastor; or in case the Pastor occupies a parsonage, a sum equal to a fair rental value of the parsonage. Missionary appropriations should not be included. If desired, separate columns may be used for House Rent and for Traveling Expenses.

§ 5. In making his statistical report to the Annual Conference the Pastor shall indicate the amount paid to the District Superintendent from his Charge, and shall inclose the cash, or a proper voucher.

§ 6. Non-resident Members shall not be reckoned in making apportionments. ¶ 58.

§ 7. "Baptized Children" shall not be counted as "Preparatory Members" in making reports of membership.

¶ 91. The Statistical Report shall be in the following form:

**§ 1. Statistical Report****MINISTERIAL SUPPORT***Support of Pastor*

Total Claim, including House Rent.

Total Paid, including House Rent.

Rental Value of Parsonage.

*Support of District Superintendent*

Claim.

Paid.<sup>1</sup>*Support of Bishops*

Claim.

Paid.<sup>1</sup>*Support of Conference Claimants*

Claim.

Paid.<sup>1</sup>

Total Paid for Ministerial Support.

Total Deficiency.

**CHURCH MEMBERSHIP***Local Preachers*

Number on Charge.

*Baptisms*

Adults Baptized.

Children Baptized.

Baptized Children who have received instruction for  
Membership.*Preparatory Members*

Received during the Year.

Now on Roll.

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<sup>1</sup> Also in Conference Treasurer's Report. ¶ 92.

*Full Members*

Full Members on Roll.

Non-resident Members. ¶ 58.

Deaths during Year.

## SUNDAY SCHOOLS

Sunday Schools.

Officers and Teachers.

Total Enrollment in all Departments, including  
Cradle Roll, Home Department, Officers and  
Teachers.

## EPWORTH LEAGUE

Senior Members.

Junior Members.

## CHURCH PROPERTY

Church Buildings.

Estimated Value—Land and Buildings.

Parsonages.

Estimated Value—Land and Buildings.

Paid for Building and Improvements on Churches  
and Parsonages.

Paid on Old Indebtedness on Churches and Parson-  
ages.

Present Indebtedness on Churches and Parsonages.

Current Expenses. ¶ 111, § 8 (2); ¶ 112, § 2.

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**§ 2. Sunday School Statistics**

See ¶ 90, §§ 2, 3

Sunday Schools.

Officers and Teachers.

Total Enrollment in all Departments, including  
Cradle Roll, Home Department, Officers, Teachers,  
and Scholars.

Scholars of all Grades.  
 Average Attendance of all Grades.  
 Members in the Home Department.  
 Children on the Cradle Roll.  
 Officers and Teachers who are Church Members or  
 Preparatory Members.  
 Scholars, including the Home Department, who are  
 Church Members or Preparatory Members.  
 Accessions to the Church from the Membership of the  
 Sunday Schools.  
 Sunday School Expenses: Lesson Leaves, Books, etc.

¶ 92. Conference Treasurer's Report.

DISCIPLINARY BENEVOLENCES

(As ordered by the General Conference)

The Centenary and Apportioned Benevolences.  
 Children's Day Fund.  
 Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.  
 Woman's Home Missionary Society.  
 City Missionary or Church Extension Society.  
 Total Disciplinary Benevolences.

BENEVOLENCES

(As ordered by the Annual Conference)

Educational endowments, buildings, etc.  
 Hospitals.  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....  
 Total Benevolences ordered by the Annual Con-  
 ference.

## OTHER CASH ITEMS

Annual Conference investments for Conference Claimants.

Support of Epworth League.

Support of District Superintendent.<sup>1</sup>

Support of Bishops (Episcopal Fund).<sup>1</sup>

Support of Conference Claimants.<sup>1</sup>

General Conference expenses.

Grand total (including Disciplinary and Annual Conference Benevolences and other cash items).

## CHAPTER III

## LAY ELECTORAL CONFERENCES

The Composition, Organization, and Powers of the Lay Electoral Conference are set forth in the Constitution of the Church, Division III, Chapter II, Articles III and IV, ¶¶ 39, 40.

## I. Election of Delegates

¶ 93, § 1. The first or third Quarterly Conference of each Charge for the Conference year within which a Lay Electoral Conference is to be convened shall appoint one Judge of Election and two Tellers, who shall constitute the Election Board of the Charge; provided the said Charge be composed of but one Church. The Election Board shall fix the time and place for the holding of an election for one Lay Delegate to the Lay Electoral Conference and one Reserve Lay Delegate in accordance with the provisions of Division III, Article III, of the Constitution of the Church.

<sup>1</sup> Also in Statistical Report, ¶ 91.

§ 2. The Election Board shall see that suitable public notice of the time and place of the election shall be given, public announcement of the same being made at two regular preaching services at least, on different days, within the six weeks immediately preceding the election. It shall take charge of the election, receive and count the ballots, and certify the whole number of votes cast and for whom cast to the fourth Quarterly Conference, which shall declare the result and give to the person receiving the highest number of votes for each place a certificate of election, which shall be signed by the District Superintendent and the Secretary of the Quarterly Conference.

§ 3. In every Pastoral Charge which consists of more than one Church or Society the Quarterly Conference shall appoint a Judge of Election and two Tellers for each of such Churches or Societies, and each of such Boards shall proceed as is provided for in the case of the Election Board of a single Church. The Quarterly Conference shall proceed in the same manner as is provided for Pastoral Charges having but one Church or Society.

§ 4. When duly convened for the election, in case of the absence of one or more members of the Election Board the lay members assembled shall have power to fill vacancies.

§ 5. The Secretary of the fourth Quarterly Conference shall certify the result of the ballot without delay to the Secretary of the preceding Lay Electoral Conference, or to any other person designated by said Conference to prepare the roll of the ensuing Lay Electoral Conference. Said certificate shall contain the names of the Lay Delegate and of the

## ¶ 94 CENTRAL MISSION CONFERENCES

Reserve Lay Delegate elected, the post office of each and the name of the Pastoral Charge.

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### II. Laymen's Associations

¶ 94. There may be assembled at the seat of the Annual Conference a Laymen's Association organized within the bounds of the Conference, composed of Delegates selected from the Charges in such manner as the Laymen's Association may determine. The purpose of such Association shall be to advance the local and Conference interests of the Church and to enlist all laymen in the general activities of the denomination.

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## CHAPTER IV

### CENTRAL MISSION CONFERENCES

¶ 95, § 1. When in any of our foreign Mission fields there is more than one Annual Conference or Mission, if ordered by the General Conference, it shall be lawful to organize a Central Conference, to be composed either of all the Members of those Annual Conferences or Missions, or of Delegates from the same, elected according to such ratio as may be agreed upon between the constituent parties, who may also provide for the admission of Laymen to such Conference, the number of Lay Delegates not to exceed that of the Clerical Delegates.

§ 2. The first meeting of the Central Conference shall be called by the Bishop in charge, at such time and place as he may select, to which all the Members of the Conferences and Missions concerned shall be

invited, and at which a ratio of representation shall be fixed by the Conference. The time and place of future meetings shall be determined by the Central Mission Conference; provided, that it shall meet at least once in four years.

§ 3. A General Superintendent or a Missionary Bishop, if present, shall preside over a Central Mission Conference; but in his absence the Conference shall elect a President from among its own Members. Missionary Bishops have equal rights and privileges with General Superintendents in the sessions of the Central Mission Conferences with which they are connected.

§ 4. (1) To a Central Conference shall be committed for supervision the educational, industrial, publishing, medical and other connectional interests of the Annual Conferences, Mission Conferences, and Missions within its jurisdiction; but never in contravention of the Book of Discipline, or the orders of the General Conference; and it shall have no authority to involve the Board of Foreign Missions in any financial responsibility, nor to hold or control the property of the Board without the official permission of the said Board.

(2) Subject to the approval of the Bishops, it shall have the power to arrange Courses of Study, including those in the vernaculars, for its Ministry, both foreign and indigenous, including Local Preachers, exhorters, Bible Women, Deaconesses, teachers, both male and female, and all other workers whatsoever, ordained or lay.

(3) In cooperation and collaboration with the Board of Foreign Missions and the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, it shall supervise the missionary

work and policy of the indigenous Church and provide suitable organization for such work.

(4) A Central Conference is authorized to prepare and translate into the vernacular concerned simplified and adapted forms of such parts of the Ritual as may be deemed necessary; to extend Article XXIII of the Articles of Religion to recognize the government or the governments of countries within its jurisdiction.

(5) A Central Conference shall have power to make such adaptations regarding membership, special advices, worship and the local Ministry, not contrary to the Discipline, as the peculiar conditions of the fields concerned call for.

(6) A Central Conference, where the laws of the country permit, and subject to proper agreements with the Board of Foreign Missions, shall have the power to incorporate an Executive Board or Committee with such membership and powers as may be determined by the Central Conference, for the purpose of transacting such necessary business as may arise in the interval between the sessions of the Central Conference, or that may be committed to it by the Central Conference.

(7) A Central Conference shall have the power to establish detailed rules, rites, and ceremonies for the solemnization of marriage not contrary to the statute law of the country or countries within its jurisdiction.

(8) A Central Conference shall have power to make such rules and regulations for the purchase, holding and transferring of property not related to the Board of Foreign Missions and the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, as the local laws allow or require.

§ 5. In the Central Conference the right shall be

reserved to vote by Conferences or Missions whenever the Delegations from one third of the several Conferences or Missions represented shall so demand. In such cases the concurrent vote of the Delegations from two thirds of all the Conferences and Missions present and voting shall be necessary to complete an action.

§ 6. A Central Conference may fix the boundaries of the Annual Conferences within its bounds, proposals for changes first having been submitted to the Annual Conferences concerned as prescribed in ¶¶ 511-513, provided, however, that the number of Annual Conferences which may be organized within the bounds of a Central Conference shall first have been determined by the General Conference; and provided, further, that no Conference shall be organized with less than twenty-five Members.

§ 7. When a Central Conference has been duly organized it shall not be discontinued except by order or consent of the General Conference.

§ 8. The Journal of the proceedings of a Central Mission Conference, duly signed by the President and Secretary, shall be sent for examination to the General Conference.

§ 9. The Central Conference of Southern Asia and between sessions the executive Board of the Central Conference, is authorized to fix the residences of the Missionary Bishops for Southern Asia, and to assign the Missionary Bishops to such residences.

## CHAPTER V

## MISSION CONFERENCES

¶ 96, § 1. Any Mission established under the provisions of the Discipline may be constituted a Mission Conference by the General Conference.

§ 2. A Mission Conference is authorized to exercise the powers of an Annual Conference subject to the approval of the presiding Bishop; and its Members shall share *pro rata* in the proceeds of the Book Concern with Members of the Annual Conferences, but they shall not elect delegates to the General Conference nor vote on Constitutional changes.

§ 3. The Bishop having Episcopal supervision of a Mission Conference may appoint a Superintendent, who may also be a District Superintendent where there are two or more Districts. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent of the Mission Conference to take the general supervision of the Conference, and yet not so as to interfere with the duties of the District Superintendents; and to represent the state of the work and its needs to the Bishop having charge, and to the Corresponding Secretaries of the Missionary Board immediately concerned.

§ 4. If there is no Bishop present at an Annual Session of a Mission Conference, the Superintendent shall preside; but if there is no Superintendent present, the presidency shall be determined as in an Annual Conference. ¶ 78.

§ 5. Each Mission Conference or Mission at its Annual Session shall appoint a Standing Committee,

whose duty it shall be, with the concurrence of the President of the Conference, to make an estimate of the amount necessary for the support of each Pastoral Charge, either in full or supplementary to the amount raised by the Charge. Such estimates shall be subject to modification by the managers of the Missionary Board immediately concerned, and in the aggregate shall not exceed the amount appropriated by the Board.

§ 6. A Charge within a Mission Conference may receive aid from the Missionary Board without having been designated in the estimates made by the Conference at its Annual Meeting.

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## CHAPTER VI

### DISTRICT CONFERENCES

#### I. Organization and Duties

¶ 97. The District Conference shall be composed of the traveling ministers, the local preachers, the Exhorters, within the District, and the District Stewards, the District Presidents of the Epworth League, of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society and of the Woman's Home Missionary Society together with one Sunday School Superintendent, one President of an Epworth League Chapter, one Director of Social and Recreational Life, one President of a Ladies' Aid Society, one Class or Unit Leader, one President of an auxiliary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, one President of an auxiliary of the Woman's Home Missionary Society from each Pas-

toral Charge in the District; also any lay members of our Church sent to any of our Foreign Missions by the Board of Foreign Missions or by the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, who are Members of a Quarterly Conference within the District. But if there shall be in any Charge more than one Sunday School Superintendent, Class or Unit Leader, President of the Epworth League, Director of Social and Recreational Life, President of the Ladies' Aid Society, President of the auxiliary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, or President of the auxiliary of the Woman's Home Missionary Society, then the Quarterly Conference shall designate one of each for this service.

¶ 98. The District Conference shall meet once or twice each year as it may determine. The District Superintendent shall designate the time and place for the first meeting after the adoption of this plan by the District; but the District Conference shall at each meeting determine the place for its next meeting, the time to be fixed by the District Superintendent.

¶ 99. If a Bishop be present at the District Conference, he shall preside. In the absence of a Bishop the District Superintendent shall preside. If neither be present, the District Conference shall choose its own President by ballot, without debate, from among the Traveling Elders.

¶ 100. A record of the proceedings of each District Conference shall be kept by a Secretary chosen for the purpose, and a copy of said record shall be sent to the ensuing Annual Conference.

¶ 101. The regular business of the District Conference shall be:

§ 1. To take the general oversight of all the temporal and spiritual affairs of the District, subject to the provisions of the Discipline.

§ 2. To take supervision of all the Local Preachers and Exhorters in the District, as provided in ¶¶ 219-228, and to arrange a plan of appointments for each until the next District Conference.

§ 3. To inquire if the support of the Ministry and all the collections for the benevolent institutions of the Church, as recognized by the Discipline, have received proper attention in all the Pastoral Charges, and, if necessary, to adopt suitable measures for promoting them.

§ 4. To inquire into the condition of the Sunday Schools in the District, and to adopt suitable measures for insuring their success.

§ 5. To inquire into the condition of the Epworth League Chapters in the District, and to adopt suitable measures for insuring their success.

§ 6. To inquire into the condition of the Ladies' Aid Societies in the District, and to adopt suitable measures for insuring their success.

§ 7. To inquire into the condition of the auxiliaries of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society and of the Woman's Home Missionary Society of the District, and to adopt suitable measures for insuring their success.

§ 8. To inquire respecting opportunities for Missionary and Church Extension enterprises within the District, and to provide for any neglected portion of its territory by the establishment of Mission Sunday Schools or by appointments for Public Worship.

§ 9. To provide appropriate religious and literary exercises during the session.

## II. Order of Business

¶ 102. The order of business for the District Conference shall be:

§ 1. To inquire what members of the District Conference are present.

§ 2. To appoint Committees on

1. Examination of candidates for License to Preach.
2. Examination of Local Preachers in each of the four years of the Course of Study.
3. Examination of candidates for Reception on Trial in the Annual Conference.
4. Examination of candidates for Orders.
5. Home Mission work.
6. Appointments of Local Preachers and Exhorters.
7. Program of religious and literary exercises for the next meeting.
8. Miscellaneous matters.

§ 3. To receive Reports:

1. From the District Superintendent, as to the condition of the work under his Charge, and concerning his own work as District Superintendent.
2. From each Pastor, as to the religious condition of his Charge, his pastoral labors, the benevolent collections, the circulation of our Church periodicals and books, and the effective organization of the members and constituents into Classes or Units.
3. From each Local Preacher, according to the form prescribed in ¶ 223.
4. From each Exhorter, including a statement

of the Prayer Meetings he has held, and other work done, especially in destitute places and among the sick and the poor.

¶ 228.

5. From each District Steward, as to the temporal affairs of the Charge he represents.
  6. From each Sunday School Superintendent, as to the condition of the Sunday Schools of the Charge he represents.
  7. From each President of an Epworth League Chapter, as to the condition of the Chapters of the Charge he represents.
  8. From each Director of Social and Recreational Life as to the social and recreational program and activities of the Charge he represents.
  9. From each President of a Ladies' Aid Society, as to the condition of the Societies of the Charge she represents.
  10. From each Class or Unit Leader, as to the condition of the Classes or Units of the Charge he represents.
  11. From the President of each Auxiliary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society and of the Woman's Home Missionary Society, as to the condition of the Auxiliary she represents.
  12. From each Committee.
- § 4. To inquire concerning Local Preachers:
1. Are there any Charges or formulated Complaints?
  2. Who shall have their Licenses renewed?
  3. Who shall be licensed to Preach?
  4. Who shall be recommended for Ordination?

5. Who shall be recommended for Recognition of Orders?
  6. Who shall be recommended for Reception on Trial in the Annual Conference?
  7. What work is assigned to each Local Preacher?
  - § 5. To inquire concerning Exhorters:
    1. Who shall have their Licenses renewed?
    2. What work is assigned to each Exhorter?
  - § 6. To fix the seat of the next District Conference.
  - § 7. To transact other appropriate business.
  - § 8. The order of business may be varied, and the business interspersed with such literary and religious exercises as the District Conference may direct.
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### III. Discontinuance

¶ 103. The provisions for District Conferences shall be of force and binding only in those Districts in which the Quarterly Conferences of a majority of the Pastoral Charges shall have approved the same by asking the District Superintendent to convene a District Conference, as provided in ¶ 98. A District Conference may be discontinued by a vote of a majority of the members present at any regular session, notice thereof having been given at a previous session, with the concurrence of a majority of the Quarterly Conferences in the District.

## CHAPTER VII

### QUARTERLY CONFERENCES<sup>1</sup>

#### I. Organization and Duties

¶ 104. The Quarterly Conference shall be composed of all the Traveling Ministers, Local Preachers, Exhorters, Stewards, Class or Unit Leaders, Trustees, Directors of Social and Recreational Life, Directors of Religious Education, first Superintendents of Sunday Schools, Presidents of Epworth League Chapters, Superintendents of Junior Leagues, Presidents of Ladies' Aid Societies, Presidents of Auxiliaries of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, Presidents of Auxiliaries of the Woman's Home Missionary Society, and Deaconesses employed within the Charge; provided, that said Class or Unit Leaders, Trustees, Directors of Social and Recreational Life, Directors of Religious Education, Superintendents, Presidents, and Deaconesses are members of our Church in the Charge, and are approved by the Quarterly Conference for membership therein; also any lay member of the Church sent to any of our Missions by the Board of Foreign Missions, or by the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, who is assigned to said Quarterly Conference and regularly appointed to definite work by the Bishop in charge.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The General Conference of 1920 submitted a Constitutional Amendment (see ¶ 619). If adopted, this Amendment will necessitate the change of the phrase "Quarterly Conference" to "Local Conference" throughout the Discipline.

<sup>2</sup> For additional members of the Quarterly Conference in Charges under the supervision of a City Society, see ¶ 441, § 2.

¶ 105, § 1. The District Superintendent shall preside in the Quarterly Conference; or, he may appoint a Traveling Elder to preside. In the absence of the District Superintendent, and of the Traveling Elder so appointed, the Pastor shall preside.

§ 2. The Recording Steward shall be the Secretary of the Quarterly Conference and shall take minutes of the proceedings thereof. He shall also be the Custodian of the records of the Quarterly Conference. In his absence a Secretary shall be elected from the members of the Quarterly Conference present, and he shall forward the records to the Recording Steward.

¶ 106. In those Districts in which District Conferences shall be held the powers given to the District Conferences shall not be exercised by the Quarterly Conferences. In all other cases the powers of the Quarterly Conferences shall remain as hereinafter provided.

¶ 107. The regular business of the Quarterly Conference shall be:

§ 1. To hear formulated complaints, and to receive and try charges as directed in ¶¶ 270-278.

§ 2. To take cognizance of all Local Preachers and Exhorters in the Circuit or Station, as provided in ¶¶ 219-228.

§ 3. To receive the annual report of the Trustees; to elect Trustees where the laws of the State permit; and, at its discretion, to approve for membership in the Quarterly Conference Trustees who are members of the Church within the Pastoral Charge, but who were elected otherwise than by the Quarterly Conference.

§ 4. To elect Stewards for the Charge, and to elect

one of these as District Steward, one as reserve District Steward, one as Communion Steward, and one as Recording Steward.

§ 5. To have oversight of all the Sunday Schools within the bounds of the Pastoral Charge, and to inquire into the condition of each; to confirm or reject Sunday School Superintendents elected by the Sunday School Board; at its discretion, to approve for membership in the Quarterly Conference Superintendents who are members of the Church within the Pastoral Charge; and to remove any Superintendent who may prove unworthy or inefficient.

§ 6. To have general oversight of the Epworth League Chapters and other organizations of young people; to confirm or reject Presidents of the Epworth League elected by the Chapters, and Junior League Superintendents nominated by the Pastor; at its discretion, to approve for membership in the Quarterly Conference Epworth League Presidents and Junior League Superintendents who are members of the Church within the Pastoral Charge; and to remove any Epworth League President or Junior League Superintendent who may prove unworthy or inefficient.

§ 7. To elect where desirable, on nomination of the Pastor, a Director of Religious Education whose duty it shall be, together with the Pastor, to have general supervision of the entire educational program of the Church.

§ 8. To elect, on the nomination of the Pastor, a Director of Social and Recreational Life who shall, with the concurrence of the Pastor, promote the social and recreational life of the young people. *Provided* that, where the above action is impracticable, the

Pastor, the Sunday School Superintendent and the Epworth League President may carry out the intent of the above provision.

§ 9. To have general oversight of Ladies' Aid Societies and other organizations of similar designation and purpose; to confirm or reject Presidents elected by these Societies; at its discretion, to approve for membership in the Quarterly Conference Presidents who are members of the Church within the Charge; and to remove any President who may prove unworthy or inefficient.

§ 10. To have general oversight of the Auxiliaries of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society and of the Woman's Home Missionary Society; and at its discretion, to approve for membership in the Quarterly Conference Presidents of Auxiliaries who are members of the Church within the Pastoral Charge.

§ 11. To meet carefully all the obligations laid by the Discipline upon the Quarterly Conference in reference to the support of the Ministry and of the benevolent causes.

§ 12. To appoint at the fourth Quarterly Conference Committees for the ensuing Conference year on (1) Apportioned Benevolences (¶ 111, § 8). (2) Christian Stewardship (¶ 71). (3) Foreign Missions. (4) Home Missions and Church Extension. (5) Religious Instruction. (6) Tracts. (7) Temperance. (8) Education. (9) Education for Negroes. (10) Hospitals. (11) Church Records. (12) Auditing Accounts. (13) Parsonage and Furniture. (14) Church Music. (15) Estimating Ministerial Support. (16) Examination of Local Preachers.

## II. Order of Business

¶ 108. The order of business in the Quarterly or Church Conference, after the Roll of Members has been called, shall be as follows:

NOTE.—Questions, or items under questions, marked thus (-1-) are to be considered at the first Quarterly Conference; those marked (-4-) at the fourth Quarterly Conference; such other questions and items are to be considered at each Quarterly Conference as are practicable.

### I. Devotional Exercises.

### II. Organization.

§ 1. (-4-) What Trustees of Church and Parsonage property are elected by or approved as members of this Quarterly Conference? ¶ 107, § 3.

§ 2. (-4-) Who shall be the Stewards for the ensuing Conference year? ¶¶ 107, § 4; 316.

§ 3. (-4-) Who shall be: a. Recording Steward? b. District Steward? c. Reserve District Steward? d. Communion Steward? e. Director of Social and Recreational Life?

§ 4. Is there any change desired in the Board of Stewards, Class or Unit Leaders? ¶¶ 107, § 4; 63, § 2.

§ 5. Who are confirmed as members of this Quarterly Conference?

1. As Sunday School Superintendents.
2. As Presidents of Epworth Leagues.
3. As Superintendents of Junior Epworth Leagues.
4. As Directors of Social and Recreational Life.
5. As Presidents of Ladies' Aid Societies or similar organizations.
6. As Presidents of Auxiliaries of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.
7. As Presidents of Auxiliaries of the Woman's Home Missionary Society.

8. As Deaconesses employed within the Charge.
9. As Class Leaders or Unit Leaders.
10. As Directors of Religious Education.

### III. *Pastoral and Spiritual Activities.*

§ 6. Pastor's report. ¶ 183, § 3.

§ 7. Discussion of the forward program of the Charge.

§ 8. Have the rules respecting the instruction of children been observed? ¶¶ 49-54.

§ 9. (-4-) What report does the Pastor make in regard to ¶ 466 of the Discipline?

§ 10. (-4-) Has the Pastor this Conference year specifically directed the attention of the congregation to our General Rules and Special Advices? ¶ 182, § 4. ¶¶ 65-71.

§ 11. (-4-) Has the Pastor prepared for his successor and deposited with the Recording Steward a plan of his Charge together with the order of services and lists of Officials, the Church membership, the constituency roll and the Units as organized? ¶ 182, § 29.

§ 12. Has the Pastor furnished the necessary data to the Committee on Church Records? ¶ 110, § 2.

### § 13. Reports.

1. (-4-) From Retired and Supernumerary Preachers. ¶¶ 188, 187.
2. From Local Preachers. ¶ 223.
3. From Exhorters. ¶ 228.
4. From Unit and Class Leaders, with special reference to intercession and Christian Stewardship. ¶ 61, § 2.
5. From Sunday School Superintendents. ¶ 474, § 5.

(In absence of a full report from the Sunday School Superintendent the District Superintendent shall ask the questions which are specified for this report in ¶ 474, § 5.)

6. From Presidents of Epworth Leagues. ¶ 485.
7. From Superintendents of Junior Leagues.
8. From Directors of Social and Recreational Life.
9. From Directors of Religious Education.
10. (-4-) From Presidents of Ladies' Aid Societies or similar organizations. ¶ 378, § 2.
11. (-4-) From Presidents of Woman's Foreign Missionary Societies and allied organizations.
12. (-4-) From Presidents of Woman's Home Missionary Societies and allied organizations.
13. From Deaconesses employed within the Charge. ¶ 235.

§ 14. Who have been licensed to preach or recommended to the District Conference for License to preach? ¶ 219.

§ 15. (-4-) Was the character of each Local Preacher, Exhorter and Deaconess examined? ¶¶ 220, 228, 235.

§ 16. *a.* What Local Preachers and Exhorters are recommended to the District Conference for renewal of License? ¶¶ 220, 228.

*b.* (-4-) What Local Preachers and Exhorters have had their Licenses renewed? ¶¶ 220, 228.

§ 17. (-4-) What Local Preachers are recommended for Orders? ¶ 220, § 3.

§ 18. (-4-) What Local Preachers are recommended for the recognition of Orders? ¶ 165, § 2; ¶ 220, § 3.

§ 19. (-4-) What Local Preachers are recommended for Reception on Trial in the Annual Conference? ¶ 220, § 3.

IV. *Financial Questions.*

A. Local Budget—to be answered by Treasurer thereof.

§ 20. (-1-) Is the Disciplinary Plan organized and in operation in the Charge? ¶ 111.

§ 21. (-1-) What amounts have been estimated for, and apportioned to, this Charge this year for the support of the Ministry?

§ 22. What amounts have been received this Conference year for the support of the Ministry and how applied? Has *pro rata* division been made for Pastor, District Superintendent, for Conference Claimants, and for the Episcopal Fund?

§ 23. (-4-) Has the apportionment for the expenses of the General Conference been received and paid?

B. Benevolence Budget—to be answered by the Treasurer thereof.

§ 24. What amounts have been received this Conference year for Benevolences and how have they been applied?

§ 25. (-4-) What amounts are officially apportioned to this Charge for benevolent causes for next year?

§ 26. (-1-) Reports of Boards of Trustees. ¶ 350.

§ 27. (-1-) Reports of Auditing Committee. ¶ 109.

V. *Miscellaneous Business.*

§ 28. (-1-) Report on Church membership by Committee on Church Records. ¶ 110.

§ 29. Reports of other Committees.

§ 30. (-4-) What Committees are appointed for the ensuing Conference year? ¶ 107, § 12.

§ 31. (-4-) Approval of record of Official Boards.

§ 32. (-4-) Who is appointed Trier of Appeals?

§ 33. Where shall the next Quarterly or Church Conference be held?

§ 34. Is there any other Business?

### III. Auditing and Records

¶ 109. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Auditing Accounts to audit the books of the Church Treasurer and of the Treasurers of all Boards or organizations of the local Church or Churches of the Charge represented in the Quarterly Conference, and the accounts of the Benevolent Treasurer or Treasurers of the Charge, and report the same in writing at the first Quarterly Conference. It shall also examine all insurance papers, securities and other legal documents held by the Board or Boards of Trustees and report its findings to the first Quarterly Conference.

¶ 110, § 1. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Church Records to examine the records of membership, the constituency roll, the minutes of the Quarterly Conference, the records of the Trustees, the Official Board, and the records of all the boards and organizations of the local Church or Churches of the Pastoral Charge, represented in the Quarterly Conference, and make written report thereon at the first Quarterly Conference. When any of these books are filled and are no longer in use, they shall be deposited with the Recording Steward for preservation.

§ 2. The Committee on Church Records shall also report to the first Quarterly Conference the following items:

What is the complete record for membership during the last Conference year?

1. Members on Roll and reported one year ago.
2. Members Received after Recommendation.
3. Members Received by Certificate.
4. Members Received from (a) Other Denominations, (b) on Confession of Faith, or (c) those Restored.
5. Total increase during the year.
6. Members dismissed by Certificate.
7. Members Deceased.
8. Members Withdrawn.
9. Members Expelled.
10. Names of members Removed without Certificate of Transfer.
11. Members placed on Nonresident List this year.
12. Total to be deducted.
13. Net Membership on Roll.
14. Total nonresident Members.
15. Preparatory Members received during the year.
16. Preparatory Members now on Roll.
17. Baptized children who have received Instruction for Membership.
18. Have acknowledgments been received from all Charges to which Certificates of Transfer have been issued?
19. Have all Certificates of Transfer received been acknowledged to the Charges which issued them?
20. Have Charges to which members have been removed without Certificate of Transfer been notified?
21. Have all known to have moved into this Charge with or without Certificate of Transfer been visited?
22. Have Certificates of Registration been issued

in the case of baptized children who have removed to another Pastoral Charge?

23. The Constituency Roll.

#### IV. Disciplinary Financial Plan

¶ 111, § 1. *Education*: That the Congregation may be fully informed concerning all departments of our Church activities, it is suggested that a full month be given to the educational preparation before the Every-Member Canvass takes place. At frequent intervals throughout the year the various causes should be presented for the purpose of informing the people. In every Church provision should be made not only for special sermons and inspirational addresses, but for systematic study. In addition to thorough instruction concerning our manifold activities at home and abroad, there should be systematic instruction on the subject of Christian Stewardship.

§ 2. *Every-Member Canvass*: Let each Charge arrange a personal canvass of the members and supporters of the Church annually for pledges to the benevolences and current expenses of the Church; and that whenever practicable such canvass be made prior to the beginning of the fiscal year, by committees going two by two.

§ 3. *Weekly Offerings*: Let each Charge provide for subscriptions to benevolent and current expenses on a weekly basis, so that each member and supporter may pay or lay by his offerings each week.

§ 4. *Quarterly Balances and Collection of Arrearages*: Let all individual subscriptions for both local budget and the Benevolences be balanced, and all arrearages collected, at least once each quarter, unless

the terms of the individual subscription otherwise specify.

§ 5. *Envelope System*: Let such uniform collecting devices be used as may be prepared or recommended by the Council of Boards of Benevolence. The distribution of the amounts collected shall be in accordance with the subscription or pledge made, except that when no specification of gifts is made they shall be divided *pro rata* among the several Boards according to the apportionments of each.

§ 6. *Budgets and Treasurers*: Let each local Church have two distinct budgets, one for local expenses and one for Benevolences, and let each have a separate Treasurer whose duties are defined in ¶ 112. Let there also be a Financial Secretary whose duties are specified in ¶ 112.

§ 7. *Monthly Remittances*: To avoid the payment of heavy interest charges by the Benevolent Boards, all moneys collected for Benevolences shall be remitted at least monthly.

§ 8. (1) *Apportioned Benevolences*. There shall be nominated by the Pastor in each Charge for each organized Church within the Charge, for election by the fourth Quarterly Conference, a committee of at least five on the Apportioned Benevolences, the Pastor being *ex officio* chairman. The Pastor, aided by this Committee, shall arrange for a presentation to the public congregation of the interests and work of each of the Apportioned Benevolences as hereinafter provided.

(2) It shall be the duty of this Committee to raise the amounts apportioned to the Charge for the Benevolent Boards, as handed down by the Committee on Conservation and Advance, and to inculcate prin-

ciples of Christian stewardship as presented in ¶ 71 of the Discipline. The budget for these benevolences shall be kept separate from that for the local Church expenses and for local Benevolent causes. The Quarterly Conference or the Official Board shall elect a Treasurer of Benevolences whose duty it shall be to receive the funds contributed to said benevolences, (see ¶ 112, § 1). He shall remit the same monthly as directed in ¶ 112, § 1 (a), (b), (c). This Committee shall provide for a careful and systematic canvass of the membership of the Church and congregation to secure pledges upon a weekly basis for at least the amount apportioned to the Charge. In making the canvass for the Apportioned Benevolences, the Committee may work in conjunction with the Official Board or Quarterly Conference in its canvass for ministerial support, current expense, or any local benevolent items. In the local Church budget the item of ministerial support, which includes the claims of Pastors, District Superintendents, Bishops, and Conference Claimants, and the item of current expense, which includes sexton, light, fuel, insurance, and other local expenses, shall in no case be included in the benevolent budget or paid from the moneys received for the Benevolences.

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## CHAPTER VIII

### OFFICIAL BOARD

¶ 112, § 1. The Quarterly Conference of any Charge may organize and continue during its pleasure an Official Board, to be composed of all the members

of the Quarterly Conference. In the case of Circuits the Quarterly Conference may organize, and continue during its pleasure, Official Boards for the several appointments of the Charge, such Official Boards to be composed of the Members of the Quarterly Conference attached to the respective appointments. The Official Board shall hold its meetings monthly on a stated day. It shall be presided over by the Pastor, or, in his absence, by a Vice-Chairman regularly elected; and there shall also be chosen a Secretary, a Financial Secretary, and two Treasurers, one for the local budget and one for the Benevolences. When so organized the Official Board may discharge the duties of the leaders' and Stewards' meeting. When such action is taken it shall make void such provisions of the Discipline, under "Ministerial Support," as relate to the financial duties of the Stewards. (¶¶ 317, 323.) The duties of the Secretary are to make a record of the proceedings of the Official Board and send the same to the Fourth Quarterly Conference for approval, after examination by Committee on Church Records. The duties of the Financial Secretary are to receive all moneys coming to the Church, keep an account with each individual subscriber, and promptly turn over said moneys to the respective Treasurers and report to each monthly meeting. The duties of the Treasurer of the local budget are to receive from the Financial Secretary all moneys received for the local budget, and disburse the same as ordered by the Official Board or Quarterly Conference and report to each monthly meeting. The duties of the Treasurer of Benevolences are to receive from the Financial Secretary all moneys intended for Benevolences and disburse them as follows:

(a) Benevolences ordered by the General Conference, which shall be forwarded monthly to the Treasurer of the Committee on Conservation and Advance. (¶ 545.)

(b) Benevolences ordered by the Annual Conference, which shall be forwarded as directed by the Annual Conference.

(c) Other benevolences and special collections as ordered by the Quarterly Conference or Official Board. He shall keep a true record and report monthly to the Official Board or Quarterly Conference.

§ 2. The Official Board or, where no such Board is organized, the Quarterly Conference shall further organize by the selection, with the consent of the Pastor, of committees for the care of Church property, finance, music, and such other committees as may be thought necessary. The Finance Committee shall consist of not less than three nor more than seven members, whose duty it shall be before the close of the fiscal year to prepare an estimate of the current expenses and benevolences for the ensuing year. This estimate shall include the amount necessary for ministerial support, viz.: for Pastor's salary and house rent, District Superintendent, Bishops and Conference Claimants; also the amount deemed necessary for current expenses, such as interest on indebtedness, heat and light, music, insurance, repairs and supplies, telephone, printing and postage, janitor, and miscellaneous items; also for Benevolences as apportioned to each Charge by the Committee on Conservation and Advance. This budget of Benevolences and Current Expenses shall be presented at a special meeting called to hear the report, or at the last monthly meeting of the fiscal year. When approved by the

## ¶ 113 LEADERS AND STEWARDS' MEETING

Official Board, or Quarterly Conference, immediate steps shall be taken by a personal canvass of the entire membership of the Church and congregation to secure pledges to meet these by weekly payments, so that the result may be known on the last Sunday of the fiscal year, and payment of these pledges begin on the first Sunday of the new fiscal year.

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## CHAPTER IX

### LEADERS AND STEWARDS' MEETING

¶ 113. The Pastor, as often as practicable, shall hold a meeting of all the Leaders and Stewards of the Charge, to be denominated the Leaders and Stewards' Meeting, in order to inquire, 1. Are there any sick? 2. Are there any requiring temporal relief? 3. Are there any who walk disorderly and will not be reproved? 4. Are there any who willfully neglect the means of grace? 5. Are any changes to be made in the classes? 6. Are there any persons to be recommended for admission into the Church? 7. Are there any to be recommended for License to exhort or to preach? 8. What amount has been received for the support of the Pastor or Pastors? 9. Is there any miscellaneous business?

**PART III**  
**THE MINISTRY**

- I. QUALIFICATIONS AND WORK**
- II. MINISTERS AND ANNUAL CONFERENCES**
- III. DEACONS**
- IV. ELDERS**
- V. PASTORS**
- VI. LEAVE OF ABSENCE**
- VII. SUPERNUMERARY MINISTERS**
- VIII. RETIRED MINISTERS**
- IX. DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS**
- X. MISSIONARY BISHOPS**
- XI. BISHOPS**
- XII. RETIRED BISHOPS**

## CHAPTER I

### QUALIFICATIONS AND WORK

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#### I. Call to Preach

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¶ 114. In order that we may try those persons who profess to be moved by the Holy Ghost to preach let the following questions be asked, namely:

§ 1. Do they know God as a pardoning God? Have they the love of God abiding in them? Do they desire nothing but God? Are they holy in all manner of conversation?

§ 2. Have they gifts, as well as grace, for the work? Have they, in some tolerable degree, a clear, sound understanding; a right judgment in the things of God; a just conception of salvation by faith? Has God given them any degree of utterance? Do they speak justly, readily, clearly?

§ 3. Have any been truly convinced of sin and converted to God, and are believers edified by their preaching?

§ 4. As long as these marks concur in anyone, we believe he is called of God to preach. These we receive as sufficient proof that he is moved by the Holy Ghost.

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#### II. Rules for a Preacher's Conduct

¶ 115. *Rule 1.* Be diligent. Never be unemployed. Never be triflingly employed. Never trifle away time; neither spend any more time at any place than is strictly necessary.

¶ 116. *Rule 2.* Be serious. Let your motto be,

## ¶ 117 QUALIFICATIONS AND WORK

“Holiness to the Lord.” Avoid all lightness, jesting, and foolish talking.

¶ 117. *Rule 3.* Converse sparingly and conduct yourself prudently with women (1 Tim. 5. 2).

¶ 118. *Rule 4.* Believe evil of no one without good evidence; unless you see it done take heed how you credit it. Put the best construction on everything. You know the judge is always supposed to be on the prisoner’s side.

¶ 119. *Rule 5.* Speak evil of no one, because your word, especially, would eat as doth a canker. Keep your thoughts within your own breast till you come to the person concerned.

¶ 120. *Rule 6.* Tell everyone under your care what you think wrong in his conduct and temper, and that lovingly and plainly, as soon as may be; else it will fester in your heart. Make all haste to cast the fire out of your bosom.

¶ 121. *Rule 7.* Avoid all affectation. A Preacher of the Gospel is the servant of all.

¶ 122. *Rule 8.* Be ashamed of nothing but sin.

¶ 123. *Rule 9.* Be punctual. Do everything exactly at the time. And do not mend our rules, but keep them; not for wrath, but for conscience sake.

¶ 124. *Rule 10.* You have nothing to do but to save souls; therefore spend and be spent in this work; and go always not only to those that want you, but to those that want you most.

Observe! It is not your business only to preach so many times, and to take care of this or that Society, but to save as many as you can; to bring as many sinners as you can to repentance, and with all your power to build them up in that holiness without which they cannot see the Lord. And remember! a

Methodist Preacher is to mind every point, great and small, in the Methodist Discipline! Therefore you will need to exercise all the sense and grace you have.

¶ 125. *Rule 11.* Act in all things not according to your own will, but as a son in the Gospel. As such, it is your duty to employ your time in the manner in which we direct: in preaching, and visiting from house to house; in reading, meditation, and prayer. Above all, if you labor with us in the Lord's vineyard, it is needful you should do that part of the work which we advise, at those times and places which we judge most for His glory.

¶ 126. Smaller advices which might be of use to us are perhaps these: 1. Be sure never to disappoint a congregation. 2. Begin at the time appointed. 3. Let your whole deportment be serious, weighty, and solemn. 4. Always suit your subject to your audience. 5. Choose the plainest text you can. 6. Take care not to ramble, but keep to your text, and make out what you take in hand. 7. Take care of anything awkward or affected, either in your gesture, phrase, or pronunciation. 8. Do not usually pray *extempore* above eight or ten minutes (at most) without intermission. 9. Frequently read and enlarge upon a portion of Scripture; and let young Preachers often exhort without taking a text. 10. Always avail yourself of the great festivals by preaching on the occasion.

### III. Spiritual Qualifications

¶ 127. The duty of the Preacher is: 1. To preach. 2. To meet the Societies and Classes. 3. To visit the sick.

¶ 128. A Preacher shall be qualified for his charge by walking closely with God, and having his work greatly at heart, and by understanding and loving discipline, ours in particular.

¶ 129. We do not sufficiently watch over each other. Should we not frequently ask each other, Do you walk closely with God? Have you now fellowship with the Father and the Son? At what hour do you rise? Do you punctually observe the morning and evening hours of retirement? Do you spend the day in the manner which the Conference advises? Do you converse seriously, usefully, and closely? To be more particular: Do you use all the means of grace yourself, and enforce the use of them on all other persons?

¶ 130. The means of grace are either Instituted or Prudential.

¶ 131. The INSTITUTED are:

§ 1. *Prayer*: private, family, and public; consisting of deprecation, petition, intercession, and thanksgiving. Do you use each of these? Do you forecast daily, wherever you are, to secure time for private devotion? Do you practice it everywhere? Do you ask everywhere, Have you family prayer? Do you ask individuals, Do you use private prayer every morning and evening in particular?

§ 2. *Searching the Scriptures*: 1. Reading: constantly, some part of every day; regularly, all the Bible in order; carefully, with notes; seriously, with prayer before and after; fruitfully, immediately practicing what you learn there. 2. Meditating: at set times; by rule. 3. Hearing: at every opportunity; with prayer before, at, after. Have you a Bible always about you?

§ 3. *The Lord's Supper*: Do you use this at every opportunity? With solemn prayer before? With earnest and deliberate self-devotion?

§ 4. *Fasting*: Do you use as much abstinence and fasting every week as your health, strength, and labor will permit?

§ 5. *Christian Conference*: Are you convinced how important and how difficult it is to order your conversation aright? Is it always in grace? Seasoned with salt? Meet to minister grace to the hearers? Do you not converse too long at a time? Is not an hour commonly enough? Would it not be well always to have a determined end in view? And to pray before and after it?

¶ 132. PRUDENTIAL means we may use either as Christians, as Methodists, or as Preachers.

§ 1. *As Christians*: What particular rules have you in order to grow in grace? What arts of holy living?

§ 2. *As Methodists*: Do you ever miss your Class?

§ 3. *As Preachers*: Have you thoroughly considered your duty? And do you make a conscience of executing every part of it? Do you meet every Society and their Leaders?

¶ 133. These means may be used without fruit. But there are some means which cannot, namely: watching, denying ourselves, taking up our cross, exercise of the presence of God.

§ 1. Do you steadily watch against the world? Yourself? Your besetting sin?

§ 2. Do you deny yourself every useless pleasure of sense? imagination? honor? Are you temperate in all things? For instance, 1. Do you use only that kind and that degree of food which is best both for body and soul? Do you see the necessity of this? Do

you eat no more at each meal than is necessary? Are you not heavy or drowsy after dinner? 2. Do you use only that kind and that degree of drink which is best both for your body and soul? Do you choose and use water for your common drink, and only take wine medicinally or sacramentally?

§ 3. Wherein do you take up your cross daily? Do you cheerfully bear your cross, however grievous to nature, as a gift of God, and labor to profit thereby?

§ 4. Do you endeavor to set God always before you? To see his eye continually fixed upon you?

¶ 134. Never can you use these means but a blessing will ensue. And the more you use them the more you will grow in grace.

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#### IV. Profitable Use of Time

¶ 135. As a general method of employing our time we advise you, 1. As often as possible to rise at four. 2. From four to five in the morning and from five to six in the evening to meditate, pray, and read the Scriptures with notes, and the closely practical part of what Mr. Wesley has published. 3. From six in the morning till twelve, wherever it is practicable, let the time be spent in appropriate reading, study, and private devotion.

¶ 136. Other reasons may concur, but the chief reason that the people under our care are not better is because we are not more knowing and more holy.

¶ 137. And we are not more knowing because we are idle. We forget our first rule: "Be diligent. Never be unemployed. Never be triflingly employed. Neither spend any more time at any place than is strictly necessary." We fear there is altogether a

fault in this matter, and that few of us are clear. Which of us spend as many hours a day in God's work as we did formerly in man's work? We talk—talk—or read what comes next to hand. We must, absolutely must, cure this evil, or betray the cause of God. But how? 1. Read the most useful books, and that regularly and constantly: 2. Steadily spend all the morning in this employment, or at least five hours in the four and twenty. "But I have no taste for reading." Contract a taste for it by use or return to your former employment. "But I have no books." Be diligent to spread the books, and you will have the use of them.

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### V. Necessity of Union Among Ourselves

¶ 138. Let us be deeply sensible (from what we have known) of the evil of a division in principle, spirit, or practice, and the dreadful consequences to ourselves and others. If we are united, what can stand before us? If we divide, we shall destroy ourselves, the work of God, and the souls of our people.

¶ 139. In order to a closer union with each other, 1. Let us be deeply convinced of the absolute necessity of it. 2. Pray earnestly for, and speak freely to, each other. 3. When we meet, let us never part without prayer. 4. Take great care not to despise each other's gifts. 5. Never speak lightly of each other. 6. Let us defend each other's character in everything so far as is consistent with truth. 7. Labor in honor each to prefer the other before himself. We recommend a serious perusal of *The Causes, Evils, and Cures of Heart and Church Divisions*.

**VI. Deportment at Conference**

¶ 140. It is desired that all things be considered on these occasions as in the immediate presence of God; that every person speak freely whatever is in his heart.

¶ 141. In order, therefore, that we may best improve our time at the Conferences, 1. While we are conversing let us have an especial care to set God always before us. 2. In the intermediate hours let us redeem all the time we can for private exercises. 3. Therein let us give ourselves to prayer for one another, and for a blessing on our labor.

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**VII. Where and How to Preach**

¶ 142. It is by no means advisable for us to preach in as many places as we can without forming any Societies. We have made the trial in various places, and that for a considerable time. But all that seed has fallen by the wayside. There is scarcely any fruit remaining.

¶ 143. We should endeavor to preach most, 1. Where there is the greatest number of quiet and willing hearers; 2. Where there is most fruit.

¶ 144. We ought diligently to observe in what places God is pleased at any time to pour out his Spirit more abundantly, and at that time to send more laborers than usual into that part of the harvest.

¶ 145. The best general method of preaching is, 1. To convince; 2. To offer Christ; 3. To invite; 4. To build up. And to do this in some measure in every sermon.

¶ 146. The most effectual way of preaching Christ

is to preach him in all his offices; and to declare his law, as well as his Gospel, both to believers and unbelievers. Let us strongly and closely insist upon inward and outward holiness in all its branches.

### VIII. Pastoral Fidelity

¶ 147. We can further assist those under our care by instructing them at their own houses. What unspeakable need is there of this! The world says, "The Methodists are no better than other people." This is not true in the general; but,

§ 1. Personal religion, both toward God and man, is too superficial among us. We can only touch on a few particulars. How little faith is there among us! How little communion with God! How little living in heaven, walking in eternity, deadness to every creature! How much love of the world! Desire of pleasure, of ease, of getting money! How little brotherly love! What continual judging one another! What gossiping, evil-speaking, tale-bearing! What want of moral honesty! To instance only one particular: Who does as he would be done by in buying and selling?

§ 2. Family religion is wanting in many branches. And what avails public preaching alone, though we could preach like angels? We must, yea, every Traveling Preacher must, instruct the people from house to house. Till this be done, and that in good earnest, Methodists will be no better.

§ 3. Our religion is not sufficiently deep, universal, uniform; but superficial, partial, uneven. It will be so till we spend half as much time in this visiting as

we now do in talking uselessly. Can we find a better method of doing this than Mr. Baxter's? If not, let us adopt it without delay. His whole tract, entitled *Gildas Salvianus; or, The Reformed Pastor*, is well worth a careful perusal. Speaking of this visiting from house to house he says (p. 273), "We shall find many hindrances, both in ourselves and the people."

1. In ourselves there is much dullness and laziness, so that there will be much ado to get us to be faithful in the work. 2. We have a base, man-pleasing temper, so that we let people perish rather than lose their love; we let them go quietly to hell lest we should offend them. 3. Some of us also have a foolish bashfulness. We know not how to begin, and blush to contradict the devil. 4. But the greatest hindrance is weakness of faith. Our whole motion is weak, because the spring of it is weak. 5. Lastly, we are unskillful in the work. How few know how to deal with men, so as to get within them, and suit all our discourse to their several conditions and tempers, to choose the fittest subjects and follow them with a holy mixture of seriousness, terror, love, and meekness!

¶ 148. But undoubtedly this private application is implied in those solemn words of the Apostle: "I charge thee before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing, to preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with all long-suffering."

¶ 149. O brethren, if we could but set this work on foot in all our Societies, and prosecute it zealously, what glory would redound to God! If the common lukewarmness were banished, and every shop, and every house, busied in speaking of the words and

works of God, surely God would dwell in our habitations, and make us his delight!

¶ 150. And this is absolutely necessary to the welfare of our people, some of whom neither repent nor believe to this day. Look around, and see how many of them are still in apparent danger of damnation. And how can you walk and talk, and be merry with such people, when you know their case? When you look them in the face, you should break forth into tears, as the prophet did when he looked upon Hazael, and then set upon them with the most vehement exhortations. O, for God's sake, and the sake of poor souls, bestir yourselves, and spare no pains that may conduce to their salvation! What cause have we to mourn before the Lord that we have so long neglected this good work! If we had but engaged in it sooner, how many more might have been brought to Christ! And how much holier and happier might our Societies have been before now! And why might we not have done it sooner? There were many hindrances; and so there always will be. But the greatest hindrance is in ourselves, in our littleness of faith and love.

¶ 151. But it is objected:

§ 1. "This will take up so much time that we shall not have leisure to follow our studies." We answer, 1. Gaining knowledge is a good thing, but saving souls is a better. 2. By this very thing you will gain the most excellent knowledge, that of God and eternity. 3. You will have time for gaining other knowledge, too, only sleep no more than you need, "and never be idle, nor triflingly employed." But, 4. If you can do but one, let your studies alone. We ought to throw by all the libraries in the world, rather than be guilty of the loss of one soul.

§ 2. "The people will not submit to it." If some will not, others will, and the success with them will repay all your labor. O let us herein follow the example of St. Paul! 1. For our general business, *Serving the Lord with all humility of mind*: 2. Our special work, *Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock*: 3. Our doctrine, *Repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ*: 4. The place, *I have taught you publicly, and from house to house*: 5. The object and manner of teaching, *I ceased not to warn everyone night and day, with tears*: 6. His innocence and self-denial herein, *I have coveted no man's silver or gold*: 7. His patience, *Neither count I my life dear unto myself*. And among all other motives let these be ever before our eyes: (1) *The Church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood*; (2) *Grievous wolves shall enter in; yea, of yourselves shall men arise, speaking perverse things*.

¶ 152. Write this upon your hearts, and it will do you more good than twenty years' study. Then you will have no time to spare: you will have work enough. Then likewise no Preacher will stay with us who is as salt that has lost its savor. For to such this employment would be mere drudgery. And in order to do it, you will have need of all the knowledge you can procure and grace you can attain.

¶ 153. The sum is, Go into every house in course, and teach everyone therein, young and old, to be Christians inwardly and outwardly: make every particular plain to their understandings: fix it in their minds: write it on their hearts. In order to this, there must be precept upon precept, line upon line. What patience, what love, what knowledge is requisite for this! We must needs do this, were it only to

avoid idleness. Do we not loiter away many hours in every week? Each try himself; no idleness is consistent with a growth in grace. Nay, without exactness in redeeming time you cannot retain the grace you receive in justification.

¶ 154. Why are we not more holy? why do we not live in eternity? walk with God all the day long? why are we not all devoted to God, breathing the whole spirit of missionaries? Chiefly because we are enthusiasts; looking for the end without using the means. To touch only upon two or three instances: Who of us rise at four, or even at five, when we do not preach? Do we know the obligation and benefit of fasting or abstinence? How often do we practice it? The neglect of this alone is sufficient to account for our feebleness and faintness of spirit. We are continually grieving the Holy Spirit of God by the habitual neglect of a plain duty. Let us amend from this hour.

¶ 155. In order to guard against Sabbath-breaking, evil-speaking, unprofitable conversation, lightness, expensiveness or gayety of apparel, and contracting debts without due care to discharge them, 1. Let us preach expressly on each of these heads. 2. Read in every Society the Sermon on Evil-speaking. 3. Let the Leaders closely examine and exhort every person to put away the accursed thing. 4. Let the Preachers warn every Society that none who is guilty herein can remain with us. 5. Extirpate out of our Church buying or selling goods which have not paid the duty laid upon them by government. Let none remain with us who will not totally abstain from evil in every kind and degree. Extirpate bribery—receiving anything, directly or indirectly—

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for voting at any election. Show no respect to persons herein, but expel all that touch the accursed thing. And strongly advise our people to discountenance all treats given by candidates before or at elections; and not to be partakers, in any respect, of such iniquitous practices.

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## CHAPTER II

### MINISTERS AND ANNUAL CONFERENCES

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#### I. Reception on Trial

¶ 156. A Preacher is to be received on Trial by an Annual or Mission Conference.

¶ 157, § 1. He must (1) present a recommendation duly signed by the President and Secretary of the District Conference, or, where no District Conference exists, of the Quarterly Conference, of which he is a member; (2) give to the Annual or Mission Conference satisfactory evidence of his knowledge of the studies prescribed for candidates for Reception on Trial; and (3) have previously deposited with the Committee on Conference Relations (¶ 81, § 2) written answers to the following questions, namely:

1. Are you in debt so as to embarrass you in the work of the Ministry? Answer: No.

2. Will you wholly abstain from the use of tobacco? Answer: Yes.

NOTE.—Like answers shall also be required of Ministers coming to us from other Churches.

§ 2. Observe! Taking on Trial is entirely different from admitting a Preacher into Full Membership.

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One on Trial may be either admitted or rejected without doing him any wrong; otherwise it would be no trial at all.

¶ 158. While he is on Trial the Annual Conference alone has jurisdiction over the question of his authority to preach; and his continuance on Trial shall be equivalent to the renewal of his License to preach. If he shall be discontinued, he shall be a member of the Quarterly Conference of the Charge where he resides at the time; and, if he is not a Deacon or Elder, his License shall expire within one year unless it be renewed.

¶ 159. When an unordained Preacher is received on trial in an Annual Conference, and, without an ordained colleague, is regularly appointed to a Pastoral Charge by the Bishop presiding in said Conference; or when a Local Preacher, not on trial, is employed by the District Superintendent to supply a Pastoral Charge, in either case and as long as the above conditions exist, the Pastor or the pastoral supply so appointed shall be authorized to administer the Sacrament of Baptism; and also to solemnize Matrimony, if the laws of the State in which he lives permit.

¶ 160. At each Annual Conference those who are received on Trial or are admitted into Full Membership shall be asked whether they are willing to devote themselves to missionary work; and a list of the names of all those who are willing to do so shall be taken and reported to the Corresponding Secretaries of the Board of Foreign Missions; and all such shall be considered as ready and willing to be employed as Missionaries whenever called for by any of the Bishops.

## II. Admission into Full Membership

¶ 161. A Preacher on Trial who has been employed in the regular itinerant work on Circuits or Stations, or as instructor in one of our institutions of learning, for two successive years from the time he was received on Trial, may be admitted into Full Membership in the Annual Conference after he has given satisfactory evidence of his knowledge of the first two years of the Conference Course of Study, and after the examination before the Conference prescribed in ¶ 162; provided, this shall not be so construed as to prevent the reception into Full Membership of one who, while a student in some one of our literary schools or theological seminaries, has been for the proper length of time regularly employed as Pastor in a Circuit or Station under the appointment of the District Superintendent.

¶ 162. In admitting a Preacher at the Conference into Full Membership, after solemn fasting and prayer, he shall be asked, before the Conference, the following questions, with any others which may be thought necessary, namely:

1. Have you faith in Christ?
2. Are you going on to perfection?
3. Do you expect to be made perfect in love in this life?
4. Are you earnestly striving after it?
5. Are you resolved to devote yourself wholly to God and his work?
6. Do you know the General Rules of our Church?
7. Will you keep them?
8. Have you studied the Doctrines of the Methodist Episcopal Church?

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9. After full examination do you believe that our Doctrines are in harmony with the Holy Scriptures?

10. Will you preach and maintain them?

11. Have you studied our form of Church Discipline and Polity?

12. Do you approve our Church Government and Polity?

13. Will you support and maintain them?

14. Have you considered the Rules for a Preacher, especially those relating to Diligence, to Punctuality, and to Doing the Work to which you are assigned?

15. Will you keep them for conscience' sake?

16. Will you diligently instruct the children in every place?

17. Will you visit from house to house?

18. Will you recommend fasting or abstinence, both by precept and example?

19. Are you determined to employ all your time in the work of God?

NOTE.—The candidate for Admission into Full Membership must again deposit with the Committee on Conference Relations, written answers to the questions set forth in ¶ 157, § 1.

¶ 163. A Missionary employed in a Mission may be admitted into Full Membership, if recommended by the Superintendent of the Mission where he labors, without being present at his Annual Conference for examination; but whenever practicable he shall be asked the questions in ¶ 162, in the presence of the Members of the Mission at the Annual Meeting, otherwise in the presence of the Superintendent.

¶ 164. A Minister who has been located at his own request may be readmitted by an Annual Conference, at its discretion, upon his Certificate of Location and recommendation of his Quarterly Con-

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ference and the Annual Conference from which he located (¶ 169).

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### III. Ministers from Other Churches

¶ 165, § 1. Ministers duly accredited as in good standing in other Evangelical Churches until their withdrawal or dismissal therefrom, and having been blameless in life and doctrine thereafter, may be received into our ministry in the following manner:

The Quarterly Conference may receive them as Local Preachers not entitled to administer the Sacraments.

§ 2. Upon the recommendation of the District Conference, or of the Quarterly Conference where no District Conference exists, the Annual Conference may at any time thereafter recognize the Orders of those thus received; may at any time within two years thereafter, upon like recommendation, receive them into the Conference, either on Trial or in Full Membership; and may, at its discretion, require them to pursue, in whole or in part, the Conference Course of Study. In case a Minister comes from a Church having but a single Order in its ministry, the Conference may receive him either as a Deacon or as an Elder.

§ 3. But the Ministers of the above description may apply directly to the Annual Conference, which may receive their Credentials from another Church, and, finding them of unquestionable validity and sufficiency, may exercise in behalf of said Ministers all the powers conferred in the preceding section.

§ 4. In all such cases the candidates for Admission into Full Membership must answer satisfactorily

the questions set forth in § 162; and candidates who come from other than Methodist Churches before the recognition of their Orders, must take upon themselves our Ordination Vows, and give satisfactory evidence of their agreement with us in Doctrine and Discipline.

§ 5. The Annual Conference may also admit to equal grade Preachers who are on Trial in the ministry of another Methodist Church, using, however, special care that before they are admitted to Full Membership their examination be entirely satisfactory.

¶ 166. Wherever the Orders of a Minister are recognized according to the foregoing provisions he shall be furnished with a Certificate, signed by the Bishop, in the following words, namely:

*"This is to Certify that the.....Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, having examined the Credentials of the Rev.....as..... (an Elder or a Deacon) of the.....Church, and having received other testimonials of his Grace, Gifts, and Usefulness, and being satisfied therewith, has this day accepted and recognized him in due form as.....(an Elder or a Deacon) in the Methodist Episcopal Church, entitled to exercise under its authority all the functions pertaining to that office, so long as his life and doctrine become the Gospel of Christ.*

*"Given under my hand and seal at.....this  
.....day of....., in the year of our Lord.....*

*"....., President."*

¶ 167. When the Orders of a Minister of another Church shall have been duly recognized, his Cer-

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tificate of Ordination by said Church shall be returned to him with the following inscription written plainly across its face:

“Accredited by the.....Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, this....day of....., 19.., as the basis of new Credentials.

“....., President.

“....., Secretary.”

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### IV. Ministers in Official Positions

¶ 168. Traveling Preachers who are elected to official positions by the General Conference shall be Members of such Annual Conferences as, with the approbation of the Bishops, they may select.

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### V. Termination of Conference Membership

#### 1. *By Location*

¶ 169. An Annual Conference, first having examined a Member's character at the session of the Conference when a request for Location is made, and finding him in good standing, may at his request grant him a Certificate of Location, provided such relation be granted only to persons who avowedly intend to discontinue regular ministerial or evangelistic work, which relation shall be certified by the President of the Conference. Such Minister shall thereupon hold his membership, as Local Elder or Deacon, in the Quarterly Conference where he resides (¶ 221, § 4), and may be readmitted by an Annual Conference, at its discretion, upon his Certificate of

Location and recommendation of his Quarterly Conference and the Annual Conference from which he located. (¶ 164.)

¶ 170. Whenever a Member of an Annual Conference applies for a Location it shall be asked: Is he indebted to the Book Concern? If it be ascertained that he is so indebted the Conference shall require him to secure said debt, if judged necessary or proper, before a Location is granted.

## 2. *By the Surrender of Ministerial Office*

¶ 171. Any Member of an Annual Conference in good standing, who may desire to surrender his Ministerial Office and withdraw from the Conference, may be allowed to do so by the Conference at its session; in which case his Credentials shall be filed with the papers of the Annual Conference of which he was a Member, and his membership in the Church shall be recorded in the Society where he resided at the time of such surrender.

## 3. *By Withdrawal*

¶ 172, § 1. When a Minister in good standing withdraws to join the Ministry of another Church, his Credentials should be surrendered to the Conference, and, if he shall desire it, they may be returned to him with the following inscription written plainly across their face, namely:

"A..... B..... has this day been honorably dismissed by the.....Annual Conference from the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

"Dated.....

"....., President.

"....., Secretary."

§ 2. When in the interval of the Annual Conference a Member thereof shall deposit with a Bishop or with his District Superintendent a letter of withdrawal from our Ministry, or his Credentials, or both, the same shall be presented to the Annual Conference at its next session for its action thereon.

4. *By Judicial Procedure*

¶ 173. Conference Membership may be terminated also by Judicial Procedure.

For Causes and Methods, see ¶¶ 252-269

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## CHAPTER III

### DEACONS

¶ 174. A Deacon is constituted by the election of the Annual Conference and the laying on of the hands of a Bishop.

¶ 175. A Deacon has authority to preach; to conduct Divine Worship; to solemnize Matrimony; to administer Baptism; and to assist the Elder in administering the Lord's Supper.

¶ 176. Preachers of the following classes are eligible to the Office of Deacon:

§ 1. Those who (1) have been Local Preachers for four consecutive years; (2) shall present a recommendation for Deacon's Orders from the District Conference or from the Quarterly Conference where no District Conference exists, duly attested by the President and Secretary thereof; and (3) shall have completed, satisfactorily to the Annual Conference,

the studies prescribed for Local Preachers who are candidates for Deacons' Orders.

NOTE.—Preachers on Trial in an Annual Conference are for purposes of ordination, as for amenability, considered as Local Preachers.

§ 2. Those who (1) have been Local Preachers for two full years; and (2) also at and during the same time have been regular students in one of our theological seminaries; (3) shall have been received on Trial; and (4) shall have completed, satisfactorily to the Annual Conference, the first two years of the Conference Course of Study.

§ 3. Those who (1) have been on Trial in an Annual Conference for two years, and (2) shall have completed, satisfactorily to the Annual Conference, the first two years of the Conference Course of Study.

§ 4. Those Preachers on Trial who shall be appointed by a Bishop to a foreign Mission, or to a remote field in any Conference, or to a Church in a foreign country outside of the boundary of a Mission or Annual Conference, or to a Chaplaincy in the Army or Navy, in a Prison, Reformatory, Sanatorium, or a Charitable Institution, provided, that the presiding Bishop and a majority of the District Superintendents recommend such election.

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## CHAPTER IV

### ELDERS

¶ 177. An Elder is constituted by the election of the Annual Conference, and by the laying on of the hands of a Bishop and of some of the Elders who are present.

¶ 178. An Elder has authority to preach; to conduct Divine Worship; to solemnize Matrimony, and to administer the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

¶ 179. Preachers of the following classes are eligible to the Office of Elder:

§ 1. Those who (1) have been for four consecutive years Local Deacons; (2) shall present a recommendation for Elders' Orders from the District Conference or from the Quarterly Conference where no District Conference exists, duly attested by the President and Secretary thereof; and (3) shall have completed, satisfactorily to the Annual Conference, the Studies prescribed for Local Deacons who are candidates for Elders' Orders.

NOTE 1.—Preachers on Trial in an Annual Conference are for purposes of ordination, as for amenability, considered as Local Preachers.

NOTE 2.—The Election of such Preachers to Elders' Orders properly precedes their Admission to Full Membership.

§ 2. Those who (1) have been in Full Membership in the Annual Conference for two successive years, and (2) also Deacons during the same time, and (3) shall have completed, satisfactorily to the Conference, the Conference Course of Study.

§ 3. Those who (1) have been received on Trial, and elected to the office of Deacon under the provision of ¶ 176, § 2; (2) have completed, satisfactorily to the Conference, the Conference Course of Study, and (3) have been admitted into Full Membership.

§ 4. Those who (1) are members of, or have been received on Trial in an Annual Conference, and (2) have been appointed to a Chaplaincy in the Army, or Navy, or to a foreign Mission, or to the Pastorate of a Church in a foreign country outside of a Mis-

sion or Conference, or to a Mission among foreign people within an English-speaking Conference.

¶ 180. When a Preacher shall have passed his examination, and shall have been admitted into Full Membership, and elected to the Office of Deacon, but fails of his Ordination through the absence of the Bishop, his eligibility to the Office of Elder shall count from the time of his election to the Office of Deacon.

¶ 181. The Annual Conferences in India are authorized, with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, to elect to the Office of Deacon or Elder, Local Preachers who have been engaged in the regular work for two years, or four years, respectively.

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## CHAPTER V

### PASTORS (Preachers in Charge)

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#### 1. *Duties*

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¶ 182. The duties of the Pastor of a Station or Circuit are:

§ 1. To have the oversight of the other Preachers in his Pastoral Charge.

§ 2. To appoint Class or Unit Leaders; to change them when he deems it necessary, and to examine each of them, with all possible exactness, at least once a Quarter, concerning his method of leading a Class.

§ 3. To receive persons into preparatory membership and instruct them in the doctrines, rules, and

regulations of the Church according to the Preparatory Members' Manual officially provided; to receive persons into Full Membership when properly recommended; to receive and dismiss members by Certificate, and to administer the Discipline within his Pastoral Charge.

§ 4. To read and explain the General Rules at least once a year in each Congregation.

§ 5. To appoint Prayer Meetings wherever advisable in his Pastoral Charge.

§ 6. To arrange the appointments, wherever practicable, so as to give the Local Preachers regular and systematic employment on the Sabbath.

§ 7. To license such persons as he may deem proper to officiate as Exhorters in the Church, according to the provisions of the Discipline, ¶ 227.

§ 8. To hold Watch-night Meetings yearly, and Love Feasts quarterly, suffering no Love Feast to last above an hour and a half; to hold Quarterly Meetings in the absence of the District Superintendent and of the Traveling Elder appointed by him as his substitute.

§ 9. To take care that every Society be supplied with our Church literature.

§ 10. To form Classes of the larger children, youth, and adults for instruction in the Word of God, and to attend to all the duties prescribed for the training of children. ¶¶ 51-54.

§ 11. To catechize the children publicly in the Sunday School, at special meetings appointed for that purpose, and also privately; to report to each Quarterly Conference the extent to which he has done this work.

§ 12. To organize and maintain, if practicable, Chap-

ters of the Epworth League and of the Junior Epworth League.

§ 13. To organize and maintain, if practicable, Ladies' Aid Societies.

§ 14. To organize and maintain, if practicable, a Home Department in the Sunday School.

§ 15. To examine the accounts of the Stewards.

§ 16. To see that the Stewards provide, whenever practicable, unfermented wine for use in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

§ 17. To teach the duty of Christian Stewardship in accordance with Special Advices, ¶ 71.

§ 18. In the absence of any other financial plan to appoint a person to receive the quarterly collection in the Classes.

§ 19. To see that public collections be made quarterly if need be.

§ 20. To call the Committee on Temperance together at least once in three months for the purpose of considering the best means to be employed for promoting the cause of Temperance in the community.

§ 21. To recommend everywhere decency and cleanliness.

§ 22. To attend to the duties enjoined upon Pastors in reference to Conference Claimants, Foreign Missions, Home Missions and Church Extension, Education, Sunday Schools, Religious Education, Social and Recreational Life, Education for Negroes, and the distribution of Tracts; to form societies and take collections in aid of these objects in such manner as the Discipline shall direct.

§ 23. To take a collection or subscription, the proceeds of which shall be at the disposal of the Pastor for the distribution of Tracts, if the Annual Confer-

ence shall not give other directions on the subject.

§ 24. To take an annual collection in behalf of the American Bible Society.

§ 25. To take a collection during each of the three Conference years preceding the session of the General Conference to aid in providing for the expenses of the General Conference, Judicial Conferences, Fraternal Delegates, and such General Conference Commissions as do not relate to the publishing interests.

§ 26. To take an annual collection in behalf of the Board of Sunday Schools, and to see that a collection be taken annually in each Sunday School.

§ 27. To register carefully Marriages and Baptisms.

§ 28. To give an account of the Charge every Quarter to the District Superintendent.

§ 29. At the close of each Conference year to make a Visiting List of members in towns and cities, by streets and numbers, and to leave it to his successor, together with a particular account of his Charge and a list of subscribers for our Periodicals.

## 2. Reports

¶ 183. It shall be the duty of the Pastor to prepare properly and to present the following reports:

§ 1. To make an exact report to the Annual Conference of all the items required for the Statistics of the Conference, and to deliver to the Conference Treasurer all moneys raised for benevolent causes, or satisfactory vouchers for the same (¶ 88, §§ 2, 3, 4), using the form prescribed in ¶¶ 91 and 92; and to report in open Conference whether or not he has presented the claims of the benevolent causes according to the requirements of the Discipline.

§ 2. To furnish the necessary data to the Committee on Church Records for Report to the Quarterly Conference (¶ 110, § 2).

§ 3. To make a written report at each Quarterly Conference in the order set forth in the following form:

*The Preacher in Charge presents the following*

### **Quarterly Report**

*of.....Charge to the.....Quarterly Conference held at....., 19....*

#### **I. Changes in Membership**

For items under this heading see Report of Committee on Church Records (¶ 110, § 2).

#### **II. Sunday Schools and Religious Instruction**

1. Number and Condition of Schools.
2. Number of Sermons Preached by the Pastor to the Children.
3. Other Religious Instruction conducted:
  - (a) with Children; (b) with Adults; (c) Teacher Training Classes.
4. Extent to which Sunday School Roll has been utilized for Pastoral Visitation.

#### **III. Pastoral Labor**

1. Number of Pastoral Visits.
2. Other Items.

#### **IV. Subscribers for Periodicals**

[NOTE.—To be reported only at Fourth Quarterly Conference.

1. ....Christian Advocate.
2. Methodist Review.
3. Sunday School Journal.
4. Sunday School Advocate.
5. The Classmate.

6. Epworth Herald.

7. Other Periodicals.

*V. Benevolent Collections this Quarter*

See Report of Benevolence Treasurer (¶ 108, IV, B).

*3. Special Restrictions*

¶ 184. No Pastor shall engage an Evangelist other than one of his own Conference appointed by the Bishop, or an Evangelist at Large (¶ 208, § 4 (8); ¶ 209), without first obtaining the written consent of his District Superintendent. (¶ 190, § 23.)

¶ 185. No preaching place shall be discontinued in the intervals between the sessions of the Annual Conference without the consent and advice of the Quarterly Conference and of the District Superintendent; and if thus discontinued, the names of the members shall be transferred to such contiguous Classes as the members may select.

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CHAPTER VI

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

¶ 186. Any Minister who has been in effective relation to any Annual Conference or Conferences for ten consecutive years may have a leave of absence for one year without losing his relationship as an Effective Minister. This is to permit travel, study, rest, etc. This leave of absence may be granted by the Bishop on vote of the Annual Conference to which the Minister belongs, after said Minister has given written notice to his District Superintendent, or after the District Superintendent has given notice to the Bishop, not later than the first day of the session of the Annual Conference of his intention to request

such leave of absence. It shall not be granted to any one man more frequently than one year in seven.

## CHAPTER VII

### SUPERNUMERARY MINISTERS

¶ 187. A Supernumerary Minister is one who, because of impaired health, or other equally sufficient reason, is temporarily unable to perform full work. This relation shall not be granted for more than five years in succession except by a two-thirds vote of the Conference, upon recommendation of the Committee on Conference Relations, and a statement of the reasons for such recommendation. He may receive an appointment, or be left without one, according to the judgment of the Annual Conference of which he is a Member; and he shall be subject to all the limitations of the Discipline in respect to reappointment and continuance in the same Charge that apply to Effective Ministers. In case he has no Pastoral Charge he shall have a seat in the Quarterly Conference, and all the privileges of membership, in the place where he resides. He shall report to the fourth Quarterly Conference and to the Pastor all Marriages solemnized and all Baptisms administered. Should he reside beyond the bounds of his Annual Conference, he shall forward to it annually a certificate similar to that required of a Retired Minister, and in case of failure to do so the Annual Conference may locate him without his consent. He shall have no claim on the Conference funds except by vote of the Conference; such claim to be paid out of the necessitous fund.

## CHAPTER VIII

## RETIRED MINISTERS

¶ 188, § 1. A Retired Minister is one who, at his own request or by the action of the Annual Conference, has been placed in the retired relation.

§ 2. Any member of an Annual Conference who is in good standing and who has served in the Christian ministry in the effective relation for forty years, or who has reached the age of sixty-five years, may ask for a retired relation, and upon his request shall be put in the retired relation. Any member of an Annual Conference who is in good standing may be placed in the retired relation by the Annual Conference if such relation is recommended by the Committee on Conference Relations.

§ 3. Every Retired Minister who is not employed as Pastor of a Charge shall have a seat in the Quarterly Conference, and all the privileges of membership in the Church where he resides. He shall report to the fourth Quarterly Conference and to the Pastor all Marriages solemnized and all Baptisms administered. If he reside without the bounds of the Conference of which he is a Member, he shall forward annually to his Conference a certificate of his Christian and Ministerial conduct, together with an account of the number and circumstances of his family, signed by the District Superintendent of the District or the Pastor of the Charge within whose bounds he resides, without which the Conference shall not be required to allow his claim, and may, after due notice and due form and record of trial, locate him without his consent.

## CHAPTER IX

## DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS

¶ 189. District Superintendents are to be chosen and appointed by the Bishops. ¶¶ 207, 208.

¶ 190. The duties of a District Superintendent are:

§ 1. To travel throughout his District.

§ 2. In the absence of a Bishop to take charge of all the Traveling Ministers, Local Preachers, and Exhorters in his District, as the Discipline directs.

§ 3. To change the appointments of the Preachers in his District, if necessary, during the interval between the sessions of the Conference, in the absence of a Bishop.

§ 4. To preside in the District Conference in the absence of a Bishop. ¶ 99.

§ 5. To be present as far as practicable at all the Quarterly Meetings, and at each to call together the Quarterly Conference to transact the business assigned to it by the Discipline; provided, however, that he may either combine the second and third Quarterly Conferences or may omit them, as may seem best, after consultation with the Pastor.<sup>1</sup>

§ 6. To issue Licenses and to renew them, in accordance with the action of the District or Quarterly Conferences. ¶ 220, § 1.

§ 7. To oversee the spiritual and temporal business of the Church in his District.

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<sup>1</sup>The validity of the proviso in this section is conditioned upon the adoption of the Constitutional Amendment proposing to change the word "quarterly" to the word "local" in Division III, Chapter I, Article II, of the Constitution. (See ¶ 619.)

§ 8. To see that all Charters, Deeds, and other conveyances of Church property in his District conform strictly to the Discipline and to the laws, usages, and forms of the State or Territory within which such property is situated.

§ 9. To see that all Church property is well insured.

§ 10. To promote by all proper means the interests of Foreign Missions, Home Missions and Church Extension, Education, Education for Negroes, Sunday Schools, Conference Claimants, Epworth League, Junior Epworth League Chapters, Temperance, and Ladies' Aid Societies, to administer the rules of the Church as to these and other benevolent causes, and to secure conformity thereto on the part of both Pastors and Quarterly Conferences and to report in open Conference whether or not the provisions of the Discipline for the support of the various benevolences of the Church have been carried out in his District.

§ 11. To inquire carefully in every Charge if the apportionment for the Episcopal Fund has been paid in accordance with the provisions of the Discipline.

§ 12. To inquire carefully in every Charge if the apportionments for the expenses of the General Conference and other general expenses of the Church have been paid.

§ 13. To report to the Annual Conference the condition and statistics of the literary and theological institutions located in his District, and under the care of our Church.

§ 14. To inquire carefully at each Quarterly Conference if the rules respecting the instruction of

children, including instruction in Temperance, have been observed.

§ 15. To make diligent inquiry at each Quarterly Conference as to the social and recreational program provided for the young people.

§ 16. To inquire carefully at each Quarterly Conference if the provisions for the *pro rata* division of the several claims for Ministerial Support have been observed. ¶¶ 328, § 7; 615.

§ 17. To see in his District that every part of our Discipline is enforced.

§ 18. To decide all Questions of Law involved in proceedings pending in a District or Quarterly Conference, subject to an appeal to the President of the next Annual Conference. But in all cases the application of law shall be with the Conference.

§ 19. To attend the Bishop when he is present in the District, and when he is absent to give him by letter all necessary information as to the state of the District.

§ 20. To furnish to the Board of Foreign Missions and to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, prior to the annual meetings of the said Boards, a written statement of the condition of the Missions under his care and of their pecuniary needs.

§ 21. To direct the attention of candidates for the Ministry to the advantages of a thorough training in the literary and theological schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and also to direct those who are admitted on Trial in the Annual Conference to the Course of Study prescribed by the Bishops.

§ 22. To explain to Preachers on Trial, as well as to those who are to be proposed for reception on Trial, that the Annual Conference may refuse to

admit them to Full Membership without doing them any wrong.

§ 23. To recommend to the Pastors on his District such Evangelists as he deems advisable, provided that he shall not consent to the employment of any lay Evangelist who has not a certificate of character from the official body of the denomination to which he belongs, and which certificate is not over one year old.

¶ 191. If any Pastor absent himself from his Charge the District Superintendent shall fill his place, if possible, with another Preacher, who shall be paid for his labors out of the allowance of the absent Pastor, and in proportion thereto.

¶ 192. A District Superintendent shall not employ a Preacher who has been rejected by the previous Annual Conference, unless the Conference give him authority to do so.

¶ 193. A District Superintendent or a Preacher acting under the authority of the District Superintendent may organize a local Church by calling together the persons interested, receiving them into the Church as preparatory members, or by letter, or on profession of faith from other denominations; and by appointing Class Leaders, Stewards, and such other Church officers as may be necessary for the initial period of the Charge, until it is in condition to be more fully organized in the regular way according to the Book of Discipline.

## CHAPTER X

## MISSIONARY BISHOPS

¶ 194. A Missionary Bishop is a Bishop elected for a specified Foreign Mission field, with full Episcopal powers, but with Episcopal jurisdiction limited to the Foreign Mission field for which he was elected.

¶ 195. A Missionary Bishop is amenable for his conduct to the General Conference, as is a General Superintendent, and shall receive his support from the Episcopal Fund, as authorized by the General Conference.

¶ 196. A Missionary Bishop is not, in the meaning of the Discipline, a General Superintendent.

¶ 197. The election of a Missionary Bishop carries with it his assignment to a specified Foreign Mission field, and such Bishop cannot be made a General Superintendent except by a distinct election to that office.

¶ 198. When two or more Missionary Bishops are located in the same Foreign Mission field they shall have coordinate authority.

¶ 199. A Missionary Bishop is not subordinate to the General Superintendents, but is of coordinate authority in the field to which he is appointed. In the practical application of this coordinate authority, when the General Superintendents are making their assignments to the Conferences, any Missionary Bishop who may be in the United States shall sit with them when his field is under consideration; and arrangements shall be made so that once in

every quadrennium, and not oftener unless a serious emergency arises, every Mission over which a Missionary Bishop has jurisdiction shall be administered conjointly by a General Superintendent and the Missionary Bishop. In case of a difference of judgment between them the existing status shall continue, unless overruled by the General Superintendents, who shall have power to decide finally.

¶ 200. The names of the Missionary Bishops shall be printed in the Book of Discipline and the Methodist Hymnal below the names of the Bishops, under the title, "Missionary Bishops."

¶ 201. A Missionary Bishop shall be *ex officio* a member of the Board of Foreign Missions and in his field shall cooperate with the Board precisely as a General Superintendent is expected to cooperate with said Board in a Foreign Mission field over which he has Episcopal charge.

¶ 202. When a Missionary Bishop, by death or for other cause, ceases to perform Episcopal duty for the foreign field to which he was assigned by the General Conference, the General Superintendents shall at once take supervision of said field.

¶ 203. The transfer of a Preacher from a field within the jurisdiction of a Missionary Bishop to a Conference under the Episcopal supervision of a General Superintendent, or from a Conference under the Episcopal Supervision of a General Superintendent to a field within the jurisdiction of a Missionary Bishop, shall require mutual agreement between the two Bishops; and a similar agreement shall be required between the two Bishops having charge when the proposed transfer is between two foreign fields over which there are Missionary Bishops.

## CHAPTER XI

BISHOPS

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## I. How Constituted

¶ 204. A Bishop shall be constituted by the election of the General Conference and the laying on of the hands of three Bishops, or at least of one Bishop and two Elders.

¶ 205. If by death, or otherwise, there be no Bishop remaining in our Church, the General Conference shall elect a Bishop, and the Elders, or any three of them who shall be appointed by the General Conference for that purpose, shall consecrate him according to the Ritual.

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## II. Amenability

¶ 206. A Bishop is amenable for his conduct to the General Conference, which also shall have power to order the manner of a trial.

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## III. Duties

¶ 207. The duties of a Bishop are:

§ 1. To preside in the Annual Conferences.

§ 2. To form the Districts according to his judgment.

§ 3. To fix the appointments of the Preachers under the provisions and limitations stated in ¶ 208.

§ 4. To appoint the Deaconesses. ¶ 494, § 3 (6).

§ 5. To fix within their own Conferences the Quarterly Conference membership of all Ministers who are

left without appointment to attend some one of our schools.

§ 6. In the interval between the sessions of the Annual Conference, to change the appointments of the Preachers, as necessity may require and the Discipline direct.

§ 7. To travel through the Connection at large.

§ 8. To oversee the spiritual and temporal business of the Church.

§ 9. To preside in the District Conference.

§ 10. To consecrate Bishops, and Ordain Elders and Deacons.

§ 11. To decide all Questions of Law involved in proceedings pending in an Annual Conference, subject to appeal to the General Conference. But in all cases the application of law shall be with the Conference.

§ 12. Upon transferring a Member of an Annual Conference, to send immediate notice of such transfer to the Secretary of the Conference from which said Member is transferred and to the Secretary of the Conference to which the transfer is made.

§ 13. To organize such Annual Missions within his area as shall have been authorized by the General Conference.

¶ 208. The following provisions and limitations shall be observed by the Bishop when fixing the appointments:

§ 1. He shall appoint Preachers to Pastoral Charges annually after consultation with the Superintendents of the Districts in which such charges are located.

§ 2. He shall choose and appoint the District Superintendents annually.

§ 3. He may make the following appointments an-

nually, provided that no Member of an Annual Conference shall be appointed to any form of service outside the regularly constituted organizations of the Methodist Episcopal Church except chaplains in the Army and Navy, unless such appointment is recommended by the District Superintendents and confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the Conference to which he belongs:

- (1) The Corresponding Secretaries, Assistant Corresponding Secretaries, and Recording Secretaries of our Connectional Benevolent Boards and Societies.
- (2) The Publishing Agents at New York, Cincinnati, and Chicago.
- (3) The Editors and Assistant Editors at New York, Syracuse, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago, Kansas City, San Francisco, Portland, New Orleans, and Athens, Tenn., and the Editor of *Zion's Herald*.
- (4) Chaplains in the Army and Navy, and to Prisons, Reformatories, Sanatoriums, and Charitable Institutions.
- (5) Preachers for Seamen.
- (6) Ministers in the service of the American Bible Society, or of any State Bible Society auxiliary thereto; or of the Sunday League of America.
- (7) The Presidents, Principals, and Teachers of institutions of learning under our care.
- (8) The Secretaries and Superintendents of City Missions.

§ 4. On the recommendation of the District Superintendents, confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the Annual Conference, he may appoint:

- (1) An Agent to travel throughout such Conference for the purpose of distributing Tracts.
- (2) An Agent or Agents to promote the cause of Temperance.
- (3) Instructors in Institutions of Learning not under our care.
- (4) An Agent or Agents for the benefit of our Institutions of Learning.
- (5) An Agent for the German Publishing Fund.
- (6) Agents for other benevolent institutions.
- (7) Editors of unofficial Papers or Magazines published in the interest of the Methodist Episcopal Church; provided, that in no such case shall the Church incur any financial responsibility.
- (8) A Bishop may appoint one or more members of an Annual Conference to do evangelistic work on Charges or in neglected territory when requested to do so by the Annual Conference, two-thirds of the members thereof present and voting. Members of the Conference appointed to do this shall be Conference Evangelists, they shall labor under the direction of the District Superintendents; provided, that the evangelistic work done on any Charge shall be done with the consent of the Pastor. It shall be the duty of each Conference Evangelist, at the end of the Conference year, to make a full written report to his Annual Conference concerning his meetings, employ-

ment of his time, results and compensation.

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#### IV. Powers

¶ 209. The Board of Bishops may appoint a limited number of members of Annual Conferences, who shall be Evangelists-at-large. It shall be the duty of each Evangelist-at-large, at the end of the Conference year, to make a full report to his Annual Conference concerning his meetings, employment of his time, results and compensation.

¶ 210, § 1. There shall be a Permanent Commission on Courses of Study, to be appointed as follows: Three Bishops, and three other Ministers, to be appointed by the Board of Bishops; three members from the faculties of the educational institutions of the Church, nominated by the Board of Education, to be appointed by the Board of Bishops, and the Book Editor, *ex officio*.

§ 2. The Commission shall prescribe the Courses of Study upon which those applying for License to preach, for Orders as Local Preachers, and for Reception on Trial, respectively, shall be examined; also a Course of Study for Local Preachers extending through four years; and a Conference Course of Study extending through four years to be pursued by those who have been received on Trial in the Annual Conference; it being understood that only such books shall be prescribed as are in full and hearty accord with those doctrines and that outline of faith established in the constitution of the Church; and that the Discipline, with some special emphasis upon the Articles of Religion, and the standard ser-

mons of John Wesley, recognized as standards in American Methodism, shall be included in the Conference Course. It shall bring its recommendation as to the constitution of these courses and the texts to be used to the Board of Bishops for final approval. It may provide means for carrying on the work of the Conference Course of Study by correspondence, and may also provide a Postgraduate course of Study for use in the Annual Conferences.

§ 3. This Commission shall cooperate in every possible manner with the Conference Board of Examiners, giving such assistance as may be desired in directing and aiding students in their study, in the matter of the plans and methods of examination, and in any other way that will help to make these courses an effective means of training.

¶ 211. A Bishop may leave without appointment a Preacher on Trial or a Member of an Annual Conference who desires to attend any of our literary or theological seminaries, whenever he shall be requested to do so by the Annual Conference and it shall seem to him expedient; provided, however, that the time thus spent in school shall not count on that required for Trial in the Annual Conference, except when at least two full years shall have been spent in regular work under appointment by a District Superintendent who, together with the Quarterly Conference, certifies to the efficiency of his work. A preacher thus left without appointment may be employed as a supply in another Conference by a District Superintendent without being transferred.

¶ 212. Bishops are relieved from the duty of investigating and reporting upon charges of erroneous teaching in our theological schools; but when charges

of that nature are made to, or laid before them, they may refer the same without action thereon to the Annual Conference of which the accused is a member for such proceeding as such Conference may deem appropriate in the premises. If, however, the Professor be a layman, the charges shall be sent to his Pastor and he shall be brought to trial according to the provisions of ¶ 256 of the Discipline. But in case the complaints affect the manner of teaching, or personal fitness, and not doctrinal soundness, the Bishops, after due consideration, shall communicate their judgment in the case to the governing board of the school directly concerned.

¶ 213. A Bishop, when he judges it necessary, may unite two or more Pastoral Charges for Quarterly Conference purposes, without affecting their separate financial interests or pastoral relations.

¶ 214. If a Bishop cease from traveling at large among the people without the consent of the General Conference he shall not thereafter exercise, in any degree, the Episcopal Office in our Church.

¶ 215. In case there be no Bishop to travel at large through the Districts and exercise the Episcopal Office, on account of death or otherwise, the Districts shall be regulated in every respect, ordination excepted, by the Annual Conferences and the District Superintendents in the interval of the sessions of the General Conference.

## CHAPTER XII

## RETIRED BISHOPS

I. General Superintendents

¶ 216, § 1. A General Superintendent who has reached the age of seventy years may be released both from the obligation to travel through the Connection at large, and from that of residential supervision, by giving notice in writing to the Board of Bishops that he so elects; and when a General Superintendent has been released, in this manner, the Board of Bishops shall report the fact to the Book Committee and to the next General Conference.

§ 2. A General Superintendent, at the close of the General Conference nearest his seventy-third birthday, shall be released from the obligation to travel through the Connection at large, and from residential supervision.

§ 3. A General Superintendent at any age and for any reason deemed sufficient by the General Conference, may be released by that body from the obligation to travel through the Connection at large, and from residential supervision.

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II. Missionary Bishops

¶ 217, § 1. A Missionary Bishop who has reached the age of seventy years may be released from the obligation to travel through the Foreign Mission field for which he was elected, by giving notice in writing to the Board of Bishops, the Board of Foreign Mis-

sions, and the Book Committee; and when a Missionary Bishop has been released in this manner, the Board of Bishops shall report the fact to the next General Conference.

§ 2. A Missionary Bishop, at the close of the General Conference nearest his seventy-third birthday, shall be released from the obligation to travel through the Foreign Mission field for which he was elected.

§ 3. A Missionary Bishop, at any age and for any reason deemed sufficient by the General Conference, may be released by that body from the obligation to travel through the Foreign Mission field for which he was elected.

### III. General Provisions

¶ 218, § 1. A General Superintendent who has been released from the obligation to travel through the Connection at large in accordance with any of the foregoing provisions shall not preside thereafter over any Annual Conference, Mission Conference, or Mission, nor make appointments, nor preside at the General Conference, but may take the chair temporarily in any Conference if requested to do so by the Bishop presiding. He shall be an advisory member of the Board of Bishops.

§ 2. When a Missionary Bishop is released in any of the cases aforesaid, he shall not preside thereafter in any Conference nor make appointments.

§ 3. A General Superintendent or a Missionary Bishop who has been released under any of the foregoing provisions may continue to exercise all the rights and privileges which pertain to the Episcopal office, except as herein otherwise provided.

§ 4. The point of time midway between two General Conferences shall be deemed to fall at the division between May 15th and May 16th of the second calendar year following the year of the regular session of the General Conference.

§ 5. These provisions concerning the retirement of Bishops shall become effective at the beginning of the General Conference of 1916.

**PART IV**  
**LOCAL PREACHERS, EXHORTERS,**  
**DEACONESS WORK**

**I. LOCAL PREACHERS**  
**II. EXHORTERS**  
**III. DEACONESS WORK**

## CHAPTER I

### LOCAL PREACHERS<sup>1</sup>

¶ 219. Wherever a District Conference exists, the powers hereinafter conferred on Quarterly Conferences in relation to Local Preachers and Exhorters shall be exercised only by the District Conference; but it shall not license any person to preach, nor renew the License of any person to preach or exhort, nor recommend any Local Preacher to the Annual Conference for Orders or for Recognition of Orders or for Reception on Trial, without the previous recommendation of the Quarterly Conference, or of the Leaders and Stewards' Meeting of the Pastoral Charge of which such person or Preacher is a member, and no member of the Church shall be at liberty to preach without a license.

¶ 220. The Quarterly Conference, where no District Conference exists, shall have authority:

§ 1. To license proper persons to preach: provided, they shall have been previously recommended by the Society of which they are members, or by the Leaders and Stewards' Meeting; or the Official Board; shall have passed a satisfactory examination in the studies prescribed for candidates for License to preach; shall have been examined in the presence of the Quarterly Conference on the subject of Doctrine and Discipline, and also shall have answered satisfactorily the questions, "Will you wholly abstain from the use of

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<sup>1</sup> The provisions of ¶¶ 219-226 include women, except in so far as these provisions apply to candidates for the traveling ministry and for Deacon's and Elder's Orders. Appendix, ¶ 577.

tobacco?" and "Are you in debt so as to embarrass you in the work of the ministry?"

§ 2. To examine Local Preachers in the Course of Study prescribed for them; to inquire into the gifts, labors, and usefulness of each by name, and to renew their licenses annually when in the judgment of the Conference their gifts, grace, and usefulness, and their faithfulness and proficiency in study, warrant such renewal. In the case of Local Preachers who are candidates for the traveling ministry, examinations may be suspended while they are pursuing regular courses of study in our theological seminaries or in universities or colleges approved by the University Senate.

§ 3. To recommend to the Annual Conference Local Preachers who are suitable candidates for Deacons' or Elders' Orders (¶ 176, § 1; ¶ 179, § 1), for Recognition of Orders (¶ 165, §§ 1, 2), for Readmission (¶ 164), or for Reception on Trial (¶ 157, § 1); such candidates having been previously examined in the presence of the Quarterly Conference on the subject of Doctrine and Discipline.

§ 4. To try, suspend, deprive of Ministerial Office and Credentials, expel, or acquit any Local Preacher of the Circuit or Station against whom Charges shall have been preferred. ¶¶ 270-277.

NOTE.—For the Licensing, Amenability, and Appeal of Local Preachers in Missions in the United States and Territories, see ¶ 278, §§ 1, 2.

¶ 221, § 1. Every Local Preacher, ordained or unordained, not having a Pastoral Charge, shall be a member of, and amenable to, the Quarterly Conference where he resides. And when he shall change his residence he shall procure from the Pastor of the

Charge from which he removes, or from the District Superintendent, a Certificate of his Official Standing and of Dismissal, and shall present it to the Pastor of the Charge to which he removes. If he neglect to do this he shall not be recognized nor use his office as a Local Preacher in the Charge to which he has removed; and he shall continue to be amenable to the Quarterly Conference of the Charge from which he has removed, which, if the neglect be long continued, after due notice may try him for persistent disobedience to the order of the Church, and upon conviction thereof deprive him of Ministerial Office and Credentials.

§ 2. If a Local Preacher be appointed to a Pastoral Charge, he shall procure from the Pastor of the Charge from which he removes, or from the District Superintendent, a Certificate of his Official Standing and of Dismissal, and at its next session shall present it to the Quarterly Conference of the Pastoral Charge to which he has been appointed, and his Church and his Quarterly Conference membership shall be in that Charge.

§ 3. An unordained Local Preacher, only while serving as a regularly appointed Pastor of a Charge, shall be authorized to administer the rite of Baptism, and when the laws of the State permit, to solemnize Matrimony, but in all foreign mission fields, power to authorize him to solemnize Matrimony shall rest in the Central Mission Conference in which he is a Pastor.

§ 4. Whenever a Preacher is located or discontinued by an Annual Conference, he shall thereupon hold his Quarterly Conference membership where he resides at the time of location or discontinuance.

§ 5. Whenever a Local Preacher, ordained or unordained, shall sever his relation with the Methodist Episcopal Church by removal therefrom by note of recommendation or withdrawal or in any other way, he shall deposit his credentials with the proper authorities.

¶ 222. The District Superintendents and the Pastors are required to arrange the appointments, wherever it is practicable, so as to give the Local Preachers regular and systematic employment on the Sabbath.

¶ 223. Every Local Preacher shall be enrolled in a Class or Unit, and meet with it. He shall make to the District or Quarterly Conference a report of his labors, as follows: 1. Number of Sermons preached. 2. Number of Prayer Meetings attended. 3. Number of Class Meetings attended. 4. Number of Sunday Schools attended. 5. Number of Funerals conducted. 6. Miscellaneous Items. He shall also report (1) the Number of Marriages solemnized, with the names of persons married; and (2) the Number of Baptisms administered, with the names and ages of the persons baptized, that due entry may be made by the Pastor in the Church Records.

¶ 224. Whenever a Local Preacher fills the place of a Pastor, with the approbation of the District Superintendent, he shall be paid for his time a sum proportioned to the allowance of the Pastor, which sum shall be paid by the Charge at the next Quarterly Meeting, if the Pastor whose place he filled was either sick or necessarily absent; and in other cases, out of the allowance of the Pastor.

¶ 225. If a Local Preacher be distressed in his temporal circumstances on account of his service in a Pastoral Charge, he may apply to the Quarterly

Conference, which may give him such relief as is judged proper, after the claims for ministerial support shall have been paid.

¶ 226. Authority is hereby given to the Annual Conferences to take such measures as they may deem wise to create a Permanent Endowment Fund, or to raise money for annual distribution for Retired Local Preachers who may have served fifteen consecutive years or more (giving their entire time as pastors to the work of the Church), and for the widows and minor children of such deceased Local Preachers. The Annual Conference shall administer the funds and distribute the income to necessitous cases through its Board of Stewards, as the Annual Conference may determine. (Appendix, ¶ 617.)

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## CHAPTER II

### EXHORTERS

¶ 227. An Exhorter shall be constituted by the recommendation of the Class of which he is a member, or of the Leaders and Stewards' Meetings of the Charge, and a License signed by the Pastor.

¶ 228. The duties of an Exhorter are, to hold Meetings for Prayer and Exhortation wherever opportunity is afforded, subject to the direction of the Pastor; to attend all the sessions of the District and Quarterly Conferences, and to present a written report to the same. He shall be subject to an annual examination of character in the Quarterly Conference, and a renewal of License, to be signed by the President thereof.

## CHAPTER III

## DEACONESS WORK

I. Deaconesses

¶ 229, § 1. A Deaconess is a woman of suitable qualification who has been led by the Holy Spirit to devote herself to Christlike service under the direction of the Church; and who, after proper training and probation, has been duly licensed and consecrated.

§ 2. No vow of perpetual service is required of a Deaconess; nevertheless, Deaconess work should be considered a life service, not to be discontinued except for good and sufficient reasons and after due notice.

§ 3. The Deaconess comes, as did her Master, not to be ministered unto but to minister, and to that end she will give herself to any form of service which will further the kingdom of God.

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II. The Probationary Deaconess

¶ 230, § 1. Every candidate is urged to take the full course in one of the duly recognized training schools before presenting herself for active training.

§ 2. A candidate, who meets the following requirements, may be received on probation by the Conference Deaconess Board.

(1) She must be recommended by the Quarterly Conference of the Church of which she is a member.

(2) She must present a satisfactory health certifi-

cate, according to the form prescribed by the General Deaconess Board.

(3) She must have at least one of the following qualifications:

a. Graduation from a recognized training school.

b. Graduation from the training school of a registered hospital of our Church, or any other hospital approved by the General Deaconess Board, provided she pass satisfactory examinations in Bible, Church history, and Discipline.

c. Certificate of satisfactory examination in the studies prescribed by the General Deaconess Board.

¶ 231. A probationer may be continued in that relation if approved annually by the Conference Deaconess Board on the recommendation of the form of administration or other organization with which she serves, and will be expected to pursue such Course of Study as may be prescribed.

¶ 232, § 1. The wearing of the distinctive garb shall be determined by the form of administration or other organization with which the probationer serves.

§ 2. She shall be entitled to the same allowance as the licensed Deaconess.

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### III. The Deaconess

¶ 233, § 1. A Deaconess License may be granted by the Conference Deaconess Board to a probationer who has served at least two years and presents a satisfactory health certificate according to the form prescribed by the General Deaconess Board, is unmarried and is not less than twenty-one years of age.

§ 2. A licensed Deaconess is entitled to consecra-

tion in accordance with the ritual of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

§ 3. When thus duly licensed and consecrated a Deaconess becomes a member of the Conference Deaconess Board (See ¶ 494, § 1) and may be employed in any form of Christian work within the bounds of that Conference, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the General Deaconess Board.

¶ 234. The wearing of the distinctive garb shall be determined by the form of administration or other organization with which the Deaconess serves.

¶ 235. A Deaconess, if serving a Church, shall be a member of such Church and of its Quarterly Conference. In all other cases her Quarterly Conference membership shall be designated by the Bishop, when making the appointment, and necessarily her Church membership shall be in the same Church.

¶ 236. A Deaconess at her request may be granted annually a leave of absence by the Conference Deaconess Board on recommendation of the institution or organization with which she is connected. Such leave shall not be granted for more than three years consecutively without the approval of the General Deaconess Board.

¶ 237. A Deaconess in good standing, and on her request, may be granted honorable discharge by the Conference Board, on surrender of her License and Certificate of Consecration. These credentials may be returned to her after the President of the Conference Deaconess Board has indorsed on each the fact and date of such discharge. A Deaconess who has been thus honorably discharged may be restored by action of any Conference Deaconess Board providing she presents a satisfactory health certificate,

and an acceptance by the form of administration, or other organization with which she desires to be connected.

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#### IV. The Associate Deaconess

¶ 238, § 1. A woman who desires to serve in the capacity of a Deaconess for a limited period of time, or in some special field of service, may be elected an Associate Deaconess by the Conference Deaconess Board, provided she meets the following requirements:

(1) She must be recommended by the Quarterly Conference of the Church of which she is a member.

(2) She must present from a form of administration, or other organization, a request for her services, with assurance of suitable support.

§ 2. For the continuance of an Associate Deaconess it is necessary each year that she be reelected by the Conference Deaconess Board, after such report of her work as that Board shall desire.

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#### V. The Retired Deaconess

¶ 239, § 1. A Deaconess when unable to continue her regular work on account of age, loss of health, or other disability, may be retired by the General Deaconess Board on recommendation of the Conference Deaconess Board of which she is a member, and the form of administration or other organization with which she is connected.

§ 2. There shall be a Deaconess Pension Fund which shall be controlled and administered by the General

Deaconess Board, and which the Board shall seek to increase by contribution, bequest, and otherwise.

§ 3. Every Retired Deaconess shall have a claim upon the Pension Fund, which shall be proportionate to the number of years she has been in active service, including the years of probation.

§ 4. The amount of the allowance to Retired Deaconesses shall be determined by the General Deaconess Board.

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## VI. The Deaconess and Temporary Relief

¶ 240, § 1. A Deaconess who is compelled to cease her work temporarily because of illness shall be suitably provided for by the form of administration or other organization with which she serves. This when desired may be done through the General Deaconess Board.

§ 2. Whenever such temporary relief is given through the General Deaconess Board the form of administration or other organization concerned shall furnish the necessary funds.

## PART V

# JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION

- I. TRIAL OF A BISHOP
- II. TRIAL OF A MISSIONARY BISHOP
- III. TRIAL OF A MEMBER OF AN ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE
- IV. TRIAL OF A PREACHER ON TRIAL
- V. TRIAL OF A LOCAL PREACHER
- VI. TRIAL OF A CHURCH MEMBER
- VII. APPEAL OF A BISHOP
- VIII. APPEAL OF A MEMBER OF AN ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE—JUDICIAL CONFERENCE
- IX. RESTORATION OF CREDENTIALS
- X. APPEAL OF A LOCAL PREACHER
- XI. APPEAL OF A CHURCH MEMBER—COURT  
OF APPEALS
- XII. GENERAL DIRECTIONS

## CHAPTER I

### TRIAL OF A BISHOP

NOTE.—Throughout Part V of the Discipline—Judicial Administration—the term “Immorality” is used to include any violation of the Moral Law.

#### I. Investigation

¶ 241. If a Bishop shall be accused of any violation of the moral law in the interval between sessions of the General Conference, the District Superintendent within whose District the offense is said to have been committed shall call to his aid four Traveling Elders, which five Ministers shall carefully inquire into the case; and if, in their judgment, there is reasonable ground for such accusation, they, or a majority of them, shall prepare and sign the proper charges in the case—unless such charges have already been prepared—shall send a copy of the same to the accused, and shall give notice thereof to one of the Bishops, furnishing him also with a copy of the charges. The Bishop so notified shall convene a Committee of Investigation to be composed of the Triers of Appeals, to be appointed as hereinafter provided, of four neighboring Conferences, over which Committee a Bishop shall preside. The accused shall have the right of peremptory challenge, yet so as not to reduce the number of the Committee below thirteen. The presiding Bishop shall appoint a Secretary, who shall keep a correct record of the proceedings and of the testimony. The Committee thus constituted shall

have full power to investigate the charges in the case, and if it finds them sustained, shall suspend the accused from all ministerial functions and Church privileges until the ensuing General Conference. The President and Secretary shall sign the records when properly approved, and the President shall transmit the same, including the charges, specifications, documents, and evidence, to the General Conference, on which, and such other evidence as may be admitted, the case shall finally be determined. Additional charges and specifications may be presented to the General Conference; provided, the accused has been given due notice of the same.

¶ 242. In case of imprudent conduct, the District Superintendent within whose District the alleged offense is said to have occurred shall take with him two Traveling Elders, and, if in their judgment there is sufficient ground for such accusation, shall admonish the Bishop so offending. If he persists in his imprudence, the matter shall be investigated in the manner provided in ¶ 241, or he may be brought to trial before the General Conference.

¶ 243. If it be alleged that a violation of the moral law or an imprudence has been committed beyond the bounds of any District, the District Superintendent within the bounds of whose District the Bishop resides shall proceed as hereinbefore provided.

¶ 244. If a Bishop be charged with disseminating, publicly or privately, doctrines which are contrary to our Articles of Religion or our other present existing and established standards of doctrine, the same procedure shall be observed as is prescribed in ¶ 241; or he may be brought to trial before the General Conference.

¶ 245. Complaint against the administration of a Bishop may be forwarded to the General Conference, and entertained there; provided, that in its judgment he has had due notice of such complaint.

## II. Trial

¶ 246. When a Bishop has been suspended by a Committee of Investigation, or when charges against a Bishop are presented directly to the General Conference, the General Conference shall try the accused in due form, appointing for this purpose a Select Number of its own Members, who shall be Ministers, to consist of not more than seventeen, nor fewer than eleven, the accused having the right of challenge for cause. Over this court a Bishop shall preside, and one of the secretaries of the General Conference shall act as Secretary. The Court as thus constituted shall have full power to try the accused Bishop, and to suspend him from the functions of his office, to depose him from the Ministry, or to expel him from the Church, as it may deem his offense requires. Its findings shall be final, subject to appeal to the General Conference as hereinafter provided, and shall be reported to the General Conference for entry on its Journal; and the records of the trial shall be placed in the custody of the Secretary of the General Conference, together with all the documents in the case, for preservation with the papers of the General Conference and for use in case of appeal.

## CHAPTER II

### TRIAL OF A MISSIONARY BISHOP

#### I. Investigation

¶ 247. If a Missionary Bishop be accused of a violation of the moral law during the interval between the sessions of the General Conference, the District Superintendents of the Annual Conference within which the offense is alleged to have been committed shall inquire into the same. If in their opinion the accusations appear to be well founded, they shall prepare and sign the proper charges in the case, and shall send the same to the nearest Bishop or Missionary Bishop, and a copy thereof to the accused. The said Bishop or Missionary Bishop shall call not less than nine nor more than fifteen Effective Elders, all of whom shall be Foreign Missionaries of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to form a Committee of Investigation, and a Bishop or a Missionary Bishop shall preside over the same. The accused shall have the right of peremptory challenge, yet so as not to reduce the number below seven. If this Committee shall find the charges sustained, it shall suspend the accused until the ensuing General Conference.

¶ 248. If a Missionary Bishop be accused of imprudent conduct, the District Superintendent within whose district the alleged offense is said to have occurred shall take with him three Effective Elders, and, if in their judgment there is sufficient ground for such accusation, shall admonish the Missionary Bishop so offending. If he persist in his imprudence,

the case shall be investigated in the manner prescribed in ¶ 247, or the offender may be brought to trial before the General Conference.

¶ 249. If a Missionary Bishop be charged with disseminating, publicly or privately, doctrines which are contrary to our Articles of Religion, or our other present existing and established standards of doctrine, the same procedure shall be observed as is prescribed in ¶ 247 or ¶ 250.

## II. Trial

¶ 250. When a Missionary Bishop has been suspended by a Committee of Investigation, or when charges against a Missionary Bishop are presented directly to the General Conference, the General Conference shall try the accused in the same manner as is prescribed for the trial of a Bishop.

¶ 251. Complaint against the administration of a Missionary Bishop may be forwarded to the General Conference, and entertained there; provided, that in its judgment he has had due notice that such complaint would be made.

## CHAPTER III

### TRIAL OF A MEMBER OF AN ANNUAL CONFERENCE

NOTE.—In all matters of Judicial Administration the rights, duties and responsibilities of Members of Mission Conferences are the same as those in Annual Conferences, and the procedure shall be the same

#### I. Preliminary Investigation

¶ 252, § 1. If a Member of an Annual Conference be accused of any violation of the moral law in the

## ¶ 252 TRIAL OF MEMBER OF CONFERENCE

interval between sessions of that body, his District Superintendent, or the Superintendent of the District within the bounds of which such acts are alleged to have taken place, shall call not less than five nor more than nine Members of the Annual Conference to investigate the same, and, if possible, bring the accused and accuser face to face. He shall preside throughout the proceedings, and shall certify and declare the judgment of the Committee.

§ 2. If the accused be a District Superintendent, three of the senior Effective Elders of his District shall inquire into the character of the allegations, and, if they deem an investigation necessary, shall call in the Superintendent of any District of the Annual Conference, who shall appoint a Committee of not less than five nor more than nine Elders of the Annual Conference of which the accused is a Member, to investigate the case; and he shall preside at the investigation; but in case there be only one District Superintendent in the Conference, or if the other District Superintendents be so related to the case as to make it improper for any one of them to serve, then the matter shall be reported by the three senior Effective Elders to the Bishop in Charge, who shall appoint an Elder to act in the case.

§ 3. If in either case the charge be sustained, the accused shall be suspended by the Committee from all ministerial services and Church privileges until the ensuing Annual Conference.

§ 4. If in any such investigation the Committee find that the evidence does not sustain the charge of immorality, but does show that the accused has been guilty of imprudent and unministerial conduct, it may so declare, and may suspend the offender from

## TRIAL OF MEMBER OF CONFERENCE ¶ 255

all ministerial functions until the ensuing session of his Annual Conference, at which the whole case shall be disposed of as the said Conference may determine.

¶ 253. Any Member of an Annual Conference who shall hold religious service within the bounds of any Pastoral Charge, when requested by the Preacher in Charge not to hold such service, shall be deemed guilty of imprudent conduct; and if, after admonition by the Superintendent of the District within which the offense has been committed, he shall not refrain from such conduct, he shall be liable to charges and investigation, or trial.

¶ 254. If a Member of an Annual Conference be charged with disseminating, publicly or privately, doctrines which are contrary to our Articles of Religion, or our other existing and established standards of doctrine, the same procedure shall be observed as is prescribed in ¶ 252, § 1. But if, after the charge is sustained, the Minister so offending shall solemnly promise the Committee of Investigation not to disseminate such erroneous doctrines in public or private, the Committee may waive suspension, that the case may be laid before the next Annual Conference, which shall determine the matter.

¶ 255. Whenever specific complaint is made in writing and signed by five responsible persons, Members or Ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church, charging a Teacher in one of our Theological Schools, who is a Minister, with violating his pledge to the Bishops of loyalty to our doctrine and polity, said complaint shall be lodged with the Superintendent within whose District the accused holds his Quarterly Conference membership, who shall carefully consider the same; and if in his opinion the complaint is

## ¶ 256 TRIAL OF MEMBER OF CONFERENCE

of sufficient gravity to require an investigation, he shall immediately proceed according to the provisions of the Discipline in ¶ 252.

¶ 256. If the Teacher referred to in ¶ 255 be a layman or a Local Preacher, the complaint shall be lodged with the Preacher in Charge of the Church to which the said Teacher belongs, who shall proceed in accordance with the provisions of the Discipline for the investigation or trial of members or Local Preachers.

¶ 257. If, in the interval between the sessions of his Conference, a Member of an Annual Conference fail to do the work to which he was duly appointed, except in case of sickness, serious disability, or other unavoidable circumstances, the District Superintendent shall proceed as directed in ¶ 252, § 1. If the District Superintendent fails so to do, he shall be accountable therefor to the next Annual Conference.

¶ 258. In cases of improper temper, words, or actions, the Minister so offending shall be admonished by his senior in office. Should a second transgression take place, one, two, or three Ministers are to be taken as witnesses. If he continue to offend, the District Superintendent shall proceed as directed in ¶ 252, § 1.

¶ 259. When a Member of an Annual Conference fails in business, or contracts debts which he is not able to pay, the District Superintendent shall appoint two judicious Members of the Church and one Minister to inspect the accounts, contracts, and circumstances of the supposed delinquent; and if, in their opinion, he has acted dishonestly or contracted debts without a reasonable probability of paying, the case shall be disposed of according to ¶ 252, § 1.

¶ 260. Any Member of an Annual Conference residing beyond the bounds of his own Conference shall be subject to the investigation prescribed in ¶ 252, under the authority of the Superintendent of the District within which he resides or within which he is employed, by a Committee of Members of that Conference. If he reside or be employed within the bounds of a Mission, he shall be subject to investigation under the authority of the Superintendent of the District within which he holds his Quarterly Conference Membership or of the Superintendent of the Mission and a Committee of Members of the same. If he be the Superintendent of the Mission, the Bishop or Missionary Bishop in charge shall appoint an Elder to act in the case.

¶ 261. In all the foregoing cases the papers, including the record of the investigation, charges, evidence, and findings, shall be transmitted to the ensuing session of the Annual Conference of which the accused is a Member; on which papers, and on such other evidence as may be admitted, and also upon such other charges or specifications as may be presented, due notice of the same having been given to the accused, the case shall be determined.

¶ 262. An Annual Conference may entertain and try charges against its Members though no investigation upon them has been held, or though the investigation has not resulted in suspension, due notice having been given the accused.

¶ 263. When it is alleged of a Member of an Annual Conference that he is so unacceptable or inefficient as to be no longer useful in his work, or that, without reason of impaired health of himself or his family disqualifying him for pastoral work, he

## ¶ 264 TRIAL OF MEMBER OF CONFERENCE

engages in secular business, his case shall be referred to a Committee of five or more Members of his Conference for inquiry; and if said Committee shall find the allegation sustained, and shall so recommend, the Conference may request him to locate. If he shall refuse, and the conditions complained of continue, the Conference, at its next session, after formal trial and conviction, may locate him without his consent. But he shall have the right of appeal to a Judicial Conference, which may restore him.

### II. Maladministration

¶ 264, § 1. A Minister shall be answerable to his Conference on a charge of corrupt, negligent, or partisan administration, but not for errors in judgment. The violation of the advice concerning Divorce, in ¶ 68 of the Discipline, shall be considered an act of Maladministration.

§ 2. Errors or defects in Judicial Proceedings shall be duly considered when presented on appeal. But Errors of Law or Administration connected with investigations under ¶ 252 which are not followed by trials at Conference, and Errors of Law made by a District Superintendent in cases of appeal, are to be corrected by the President of the next Annual Conference on appeal in open session, and the Conference may also order just and suitable remedies, if injury has resulted from such errors.

§ 3. Errors of Administration not connected with Judicial Proceedings may be presented in writing to the Annual Conference, for its judgment thereon; and the Annual Conference may order just and suitable remedies when the rights of Ministers or mem-

bers of the Church have been injuriously affected by such errors.

### III. Trial

¶ 265. The Annual Conference, at its discretion, may try an accused Member by one of the following methods:

§ 1. The trial, including the examination of witnesses, may be by the Conference in full session.

§ 2. The Bishop may appoint an Elder as a Commissioner to take the evidence in the case, in whole or in part; and said Commissioner shall cause a correct record of the proceedings in the case and of the evidence, signed by the witnesses respectively, to be laid before the Annual Conference; upon which evidence and such other evidence as may be admitted the case shall be determined.

§ 3. The Conference may appoint from its Members a Select Number of not less than nine nor more than fifteen, to try the accused, who shall have the right to challenge for cause; which Select Number, in the presence of a Bishop, or of a Chairman whom the President of the Conference shall have appointed, and one or more of the Secretaries of the Conference, shall have full power to consider and determine the case according to the rules which govern in such proceedings; and they shall make a faithful report in writing of all their proceedings, duly attested by the President and Secretary of the Select Number, to the Secretary of the Annual Conference before its final adjournment, and deliver up to him therewith the bill of charges, the evidence taken, and the decision rendered, with all documents brought into the trial.

## ¶ 266 TRIAL OF MEMBER OF CONFERENCE

§ 4. But if a case cannot be tried during the session for want of testimony, the Annual Conference may refer it to one of the District Superintendents, who shall proceed as directed in ¶ 252, § 1, and the Conference shall determine whether the case seems to be of such gravity as to require that the Minister be left without appointment until investigation shall be held.

¶ 266. When a Minister is tried on a charge of immorality, and the Annual Conference, or the Select Number, shall find that this charge is not sustained by the evidence, but that the Minister has been proven guilty of "high imprudence and unministerial conduct," it may declare this fact, and may by this finding reprove the offender, or may subject him to suspension, or deprivation of his Ministerial Office and Credentials.

¶ 267, § 1. In case any Member of an Annual Conference shall have been deposed from the Ministry without being expelled from the Church, he shall have his membership in the Church where he resided at the time of his deposition.

§ 2. In case any Member of an Annual Conference shall have been deposed from the Ministry or expelled from the Church for teaching publicly or privately doctrines contrary to our Articles of Religion, or our other present existing and established standards of doctrine, he shall not again be licensed to preach until he shall have satisfied the Conference from which he was deposed or expelled, and shall have promised in writing to desist wholly from disseminating such doctrine.

¶ 268. After a Minister shall have been tried regularly and expelled he shall have no Privileges of Society or Sacraments in our Church, without con-

trition, reformation, and confession, satisfactory to the Annual Conference by which he was expelled.

¶ 269. When a Member of an Annual Conference is accused of immorality and desires to withdraw from the Church, the Annual Conference may permit him to withdraw; in which case the record shall be, "Withdrawn under Complaints." If formal charges of immorality have been presented, he may be permitted to withdraw; in which case the record shall be, "Withdrawn under Charges"; and if thus "Withdrawn under Complaints," or "Withdrawn under Charges," his relation to the Church shall be the same as if he had been expelled.

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## CHAPTER IV

### TRIAL OF A PREACHER ON TRIAL

¶ 270. A Preacher on Trial in an Annual Conference, in reference to Amenability and Appeal is considered as a Local Preacher; but in his case the District Superintendent shall perform the duties which are assigned to the Preacher in Charge in the case of an accused Local Preacher.

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## CHAPTER V

### TRIAL OF A LOCAL PREACHER

¶ 271. When a Local Preacher, ordained or unordained, is accused of any violation of the moral law,

the Preacher in Charge shall call a Committee of Investigation, consisting of three or more Local Preachers, before which it shall be the duty of the accused to appear, and by which, if the charge be sustained, he shall be suspended from all ministerial services and Church privileges until the next District or Quarterly Conference; which Conference shall try the case, and if the accused be found guilty the Conference shall suspend, deprive of ministerial office and credentials, or expel him. (¶ 220, § 4.) But a Local Preacher may be tried by a District or Quarterly Conference without preliminary investigation, provided due notice shall have been given him.

¶ 272. Should the District Conference having jurisdiction in the case of an accused Local Preacher judge it expedient to try him by a Select Number, it may appoint not less than nine nor more than fifteen of its Members for that purpose, the accused having the right of challenge for cause; which Select Number, in the presence of the President of the District Conference, or of an Elder appointed by him, and a Secretary appointed by the said Conference, shall have full power to consider and determine the case according to the rules applicable thereto; and the Secretary shall make a correct report in writing of all the proceedings and evidence to the Secretary of the District Conference, and shall deliver to him all the papers in the case.

¶ 273, § 1. In case of improper temper, words, or actions, the Local Preacher so offending shall be admonished by the Preacher in Charge. Should a second transgression take place, one or two members of the Church are to be taken as witnesses. If he continue to offend, the case shall be investigated

as provided in ¶ 271, or he shall be tried at the next District or Quarterly Conference, and, if found guilty and impenitent, he shall be expelled from the Church.

§ 2. If, on due trial by the District or Quarterly Conference, a Local Preacher be found neglectful of his duties as a Local Preacher or unacceptable in his Ministry, he may be deprived of his ministerial office; in which case, if he be ordained, the District Superintendent shall require him to deliver up his credentials, that they may be returned to the Annual Conference.

§ 3. A Local Preacher, who shall hold religious services within the bounds of a Pastoral Charge when requested by the Preacher in Charge not to do so, shall be deemed guilty of imprudent conduct, and if he persist, after admonition by the Superintendent of the District within which the offense has been committed, he may be brought to investigation or trial, either or both of which may take place in the Charge and under the proper officers of the Church where the forbidden service has been held.

¶ 274. If a Local Preacher disseminate, publicly or privately, doctrines which are contrary to our Articles of Religion, or our other present existing and established standards of doctrine, the same procedure shall be observed as is prescribed in ¶¶ 271, 272.

NOTE.—Touching complaints against a Local Preacher for erroneous teaching in a Theological School, see ¶¶ 255, 256.

¶ 275. If a Local Preacher shall fail in business, or contract debts which he is not able to pay, the Preacher in Charge shall appoint three judicious members of the Church to inspect the accounts, con-

tracts, and circumstances of the supposed delinquent; and if, in their opinion, he has behaved dishonestly, or contracted debts without a reasonable probability of paying, the same procedure shall be observed as is prescribed in ¶¶ 271, 272.

¶ 276. If, in the judgment of the District Superintendent, a fair and impartial trial cannot be had in the Quarterly Conference where the accused holds his membership, the District Superintendent may refer the case for trial to some other Quarterly Conference within the bounds of his District.

¶ 277. If the trial is by the Quarterly Conference, the accused shall have the right of challenge for cause. If by reason of said challenge or other cause the number of the members of the Quarterly Conference present shall fall below seven, which number shall be required for a quorum in case of any such trial, the Quarterly Conference, if the District Superintendent so request, shall adjourn to a subsequent date, to be named by him, to try the case; or, the District Superintendent may refer it to some other Quarterly Conference in his District.

¶ 278, § 1. In Missions in the United States, its Territories, and insular possessions the power to try Local Preachers shall remain with the respective Quarterly Conferences; but Local Preachers so tried and convicted shall have the right of appeal to the Annual Meeting of the Mission.

§ 2. The Ministerial members of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension shall constitute a Judicial Conference to hear appeals of Local Preachers convicted at an Annual Meeting of a Mission; such Judicial Conference to be presided over by a Bishop.

## CHAPTER VI

### TRIAL OF A CHURCH MEMBER

#### I. Immoral Conduct

¶ 279, § 1. A member of the Church accused of a violation of the moral law shall be brought to trial.

§ 2. A member of the Church, who, after private reproof and admonition by the Pastor or Class Leader, persists in using, buying, or selling intoxicating liquors as a beverage, or who signs a petition in favor of granting a license for the sale of such liquors, or who signs a petition of consent for the sale of such liquors, or who applies for a license for the sale of such liquors, or who procures a license for the sale of such liquors, or who becomes bondsman of any person or persons engaged in such traffic, or who rents his property as a place in which, or on which, to manufacture or sell intoxicating liquors, shall be brought to trial, and if found guilty and there be no sign of real humiliation, shall be expelled.

#### II. Imprudent Conduct

¶ 280. In cases of neglect of duties of any kind; imprudent conduct; indulging sinful tempers or words; dancing; playing at games of chance; attending theaters, horse-races, circuses, dancing parties, or patronizing dancing schools, or taking such other amusements as are obviously of misleading or questionable moral tendency; or disobedience to the

## ¶ 281 TRIAL OF A CHURCH MEMBER

order and Discipline of the Church, on the first offense, let private reproof be given by the Pastor or Class Leader, and if there be an acknowledgment of the fault and proper humiliation, the person may be borne with. On the second offense the Pastor or Class Leader may take with him one or two discreet members of the Church. On the third offense let him be brought to trial, and if found guilty and there be no sign of real humiliation, he shall be expelled.

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### III. Neglect of Means of Grace

¶ 281. If a member of the Church shall habitually neglect the means of grace, such as the Public Worship of God, the Lord's Supper, family and private Prayer, searching the Scriptures, Class Meetings, and Prayer Meeting, the Preacher in Charge shall visit him and explain to him the consequences if he continue his neglect. If he do not amend, he shall be brought to trial, and if found guilty of willful neglect, he shall be expelled.

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### IV. Causing Dissension

¶ 282. If a member of the Church shall be accused of endeavoring to sow dissension in the Church by inveighing against its Doctrines or Discipline, its Ministers or Members, or in any other manner, the person so offending shall first be reproved by the Preacher in Charge; and if he persist in such pernicious practice, he shall be brought to trial, and, if found guilty, shall be expelled.

NOTE.—For the method of disposing of complaints against a layman for erroneous teaching in a Theological School, see ¶ 256.

**V. Disagreement in Business—Arbitration**

¶ 283. In case of any disagreement between two or more members of the Church concerning business transactions, which cannot be settled by the parties, the Preacher in Charge shall inquire into the circumstances of the case, and shall recommend to the parties that such disagreement be submitted to arbitration. If this method of settlement be agreed upon, two arbitrators shall be chosen by one party, and two by the other, which four shall choose a fifth. The said arbitrators shall be members of our Church, who have no personal or pecuniary interests in the result. The Preacher in Charge shall preside, and the Disciplinary forms of trial shall be observed. If either party refuse to abide by the judgment of the arbitrators, he shall be brought to trial, and if he fail to show sufficient cause for such refusal, he shall be expelled.

¶ 284. If any member of the Church, in case of debt or other dispute, shall refuse to refer the matter to arbitration, when recommended to do so by the Preacher in Charge, or shall enter into a lawsuit with another member before these measures are taken, he shall be brought to trial, and if he fail to show that the case is of such a nature as to require and justify such a course, he shall be expelled.

¶ 285. If, in the case of debt or dispute, one of the parties is a Minister, the duties assigned to the Preacher in Charge in the foregoing paragraphs shall be performed by the District Superintendent of the Minister concerned. If both be Ministers, the District Superintendent of either may act in the case.

## VI. Insolvency

¶ 286, § 1. Preachers in Charge are required to execute faithfully the rules against all frauds, and particularly against dishonest insolvencies, suffering no one to remain in the Church who is found guilty of fraud.

§ 2. To prevent scandal, when any member of the Church fails in business, or contracts debts which he is not able to pay, two or three judicious members of the Church, designated by the Preacher in Charge, shall inspect the accounts, contracts, and circumstances of the supposed delinquent; and if they believe that he has behaved dishonestly, or borrowed money without a reasonable probability of paying, he shall be brought to trial, and, if found guilty, shall be expelled.

¶ 287. In all the foregoing cases of trial enumerated in this chapter the accused member shall be brought to trial before a Committee of not less than five members of the Church. They shall be chosen by the Preacher in Charge, and, if he judge it necessary, he may select them from any part of the District. The accused may challenge for cause. The Preacher in Charge shall preside at the trial.

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## VII. Penalties

¶ 288. If the accused person be found guilty by the decision of a majority of the Committee, the Preacher in Charge shall then and there pronounce the sentence of expulsion.

¶ 289. But if, in view of mitigating circumstances and of humble and penitent confession, the Committee find that a lower penalty would be proper, it may im-

pose censure on the offender, at its discretion, or suspend him from all Church privileges for a definite time.

¶ 290. An expelled person shall have no Privileges of Society or of the Sacraments of the Church without confession, contrition, and satisfactory reformation.

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## CHAPTER VII

### APPEAL OF A BISHOP

¶ 291, § 1. A Bishop or Missionary Bishop shall have the right to appeal to the General Conference in case of an adverse decision by the trial court hereinbefore prescribed in such cases; provided, that within thirty days after his conviction he notify the Secretary of the General Conference of his intention to appeal. All such appeals shall be heard and determined by the General Conference Committee on the Judiciary.

§ 2. If during the session of a General Conference a Bishop or a Missionary Bishop shall have been convicted, the General Conference shall extend the term of service of the Committee on the Judiciary until it shall have disposed of a possible appeal in the case.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the General Conference, on receiving notice of such appeal, to inform the senior effective Bishop, whose duty it shall be, after conference with the parties in interest, to fix the time and place for the hearing of the appeal, and to instruct the Secretary of the

## ¶ 292 APPEAL OF MEMBER OF CONFERENCE

General Conference to serve due notice of the same to all concerned.

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### CHAPTER VIII

#### APPEAL OF A MEMBER OF AN ANNUAL CONFERENCE—JUDICIAL CONFERENCE

¶ 292, § 1. The several Annual Conferences shall at each session select five Elders, men of experience and sound judgment in the affairs of the Church, who shall be known as Triers of Appeals, and also two reserve Triers of Appeals. The reserves shall serve in the absence or disqualification of the principals.

§ 2. In Foreign Missions or Foreign Mission Conferences, remote from other Missions or Conferences, let there be not less than nine nor more than thirteen Elders selected as Triers of Appeals, and also three reserves, and from these, thus selected, shall be chosen the Triers of Appeals to constitute the Judicial Conference for said body. The proceedings to comply with the requirements of ¶ 252.

¶ 293. When notice of an appeal has been given to the President of an Annual Conference, he shall proceed, with due regard to the wishes and rights of the Appellant, to designate three Annual Conferences conveniently near to that from the decision of which the appeal is taken, and the Triers of Appeals of such Conferences shall constitute a Judicial Conference. He shall fix also the time and place of its session. He shall also give notice thereof to the said Triers of Appeals and to all others concerned. Such Judicial Conference shall be competent to hear appeals which may be presented to it from any Con-

## APPEAL OF MEMBER OF CONFERENCE ¶ 297

ference conveniently near, due notice having been given to all concerned.

¶ 294. The Appellant shall have the right of peremptory challenge, yet so that the number of Triers of Appeals present and qualified shall not fall below nine, which number shall be required for a quorum.

¶ 295. A Bishop shall preside in a Judicial Conference and shall decide all questions of law arising in its proceedings, subject to an appeal to the General Conference. The Judicial Conference shall appoint a Secretary, who shall keep a faithful record of all the proceedings, and at the close of the hearing shall transmit the records made and the papers submitted in the case, or certified copies thereof, to the Secretary of the General Conference, to be filed for use by the General Conference in case of appeal. In all cases the findings of the Judicial Conference shall be reported by its Secretary to the Secretary of the Annual Conference whose membership is affected thereby, and if no further appeal shall have been taken on a question of law, the same shall be published in the Minutes of said Annual Conference.

¶ 296. In all cases of trial and conviction of Members of an Annual Conference, an appeal shall be allowed to a Judicial Conference, constituted as hereinbefore provided, if the condemned person, within thirty days after his conviction, shall signify in writing to the Secretary of the Annual Conference his intention to appeal.

¶ 297. Appeals from an Annual Conference within the United States, not easily accessible, at the discretion of the President thereof, may be heard by a Judicial Conference selected from among more accessible Conferences. Appeals from an Annual or

## ¶ 298 APPEAL OF MEMBER OF CONFERENCE

Mission Conference not in the United States may be heard at the discretion of the Bishop in charge thereof, due regard being had to the rights and interests of all concerned, either by a Judicial Conference called by said Bishop from neighboring foreign Conferences, or by a Judicial Conference called by him to meet at or near New York, or by the General Conference through a special Appellate Committee appointed for the purpose.

¶ 298. When the case of any Minister who has been suspended or expelled is remanded for a new trial, his suspension from all ministerial functions shall continue until the next ensuing session of the Annual Conference.

¶ 299. Should a Member of an Annual Conference be suspended by a Committee of Investigation in the interval between the sessions of his Conference, and subsequently be found guilty by his Conference and expelled, his claim upon the funds of the Conference shall cease from the time of his suspension. Should a Member of an Annual Conference be suspended and afterward be restored, he shall have no claim upon the Pastoral Charge nor upon the funds of the Conference during the period of such suspension.

¶ 300. The General Conference, on appeal, or on Complaint, shall carefully review the decisions of Questions of Law contained in the records and documents transmitted to it from Judicial Conferences; and in case of serious error therein, shall take such action as justice may require. The papers submitted shall be returned by the Secretary of the Committee on Judiciary to the Chairman of the Delegation of the Annual Conference of which the accused is a Member.

## CHAPTER IX

## RESTORATION OF CREDENTIALS

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I. When Voluntarily Surrendered

¶ 301. When an ordained Minister of any class who is in good standing shall surrender his Credentials for any reason, the Annual Conference at any subsequent time may restore the same upon the recommendation of the District or Quarterly Conference of the Charge in which he has membership as a Local Preacher.

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## II. When Involuntarily Surrendered

¶ 302. When a Member of an Annual Conference by expulsion or otherwise shall have been deprived of his Credentials, they shall be filed with the papers of his Conference; and in case the said Member has come to us from another Church, so that he holds the certificate of our Church, and his original Credentials indorsed by our Church, he shall be required to surrender to his Conference both the certificate of our Church and the original Credentials bearing our indorsement. If at any future time he shall give satisfactory evidence to said Annual Conference of his amendment, and procure a certificate from the Quarterly Conference of the Charge in which he resides, or from an Annual Conference which may have received him on Trial, recommending to the Annual

### ¶ 303 APPEAL OF A LOCAL PREACHER

Conference of which he was formerly a Member the restoration of his Credentials, the said Annual Conference may restore them.

¶ 303. When a Local Elder or Deacon shall have been expelled or deprived of his Ministerial Office, the District Superintendent shall require of him the Credentials of his ordination, to be filed with the papers of the Annual Conference within the bounds of which the expulsion has taken place. Should he, at any future time, produce to the Annual Conference a certificate of his restoration, signed by the President and countersigned by the Secretary of his Quarterly Conference, his Credentials may be restored to him.

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## CHAPTER X

### APPEAL OF A LOCAL PREACHER

¶ 304. In case of conviction, a Local Preacher shall be allowed to appeal to the next Annual Conference; provided, that within thirty days after his conviction he shall signify in writing to the President or Secretary of the District or Quarterly Conference by which he was tried, his determination to appeal; and the said Annual Conference, in full session, or by a Select Number of not less than nine nor more than fifteen, shall hear the appeal. If the hearing be by a Select Number, the Appellant shall have the right of peremptory challenge. The decision of said Annual Conference shall be the final determination of the case, subject only to an appeal to the General Conference by either party on Questions of Law.

¶ 305. An appeal by a Local Preacher from a Quar-

terly Conference within the jurisdiction of a Mission shall be to the Annual Meeting of the said Mission.

## CHAPTER XI

### APPEAL OF A CHURCH MEMBER—COURT OF APPEALS

¶ 306, § 1. At the Fourth Quarterly Conference of each year each Pastoral Charge shall select from among the members of the Church one person of experience and sound judgment in the affairs of the Church, who shall be known as a Trier of Appeals for Members.

§ 2. When due notice of appeal has been given to the Superintendent of any District, he shall proceed, with due regard to the wishes and rights of the Appellant, to convene a Court of Appeals, which shall be constituted of such of the Triers of Appeals on his District as he shall summon, the number so summoned by him to be not more than fifteen nor less than nine; but the Trier of Appeals of the Charge to which the accused member belongs shall not be one of the number so summoned. The District Superintendent shall give not less than ten nor more than thirty days' notice of the time and place at which the Court of Appeals will assemble, and such notice shall be given to all concerned. The Appellant shall have the right of peremptory challenge; provided, that the Triers of Appeals present and ready to proceed with the hearing shall not fall below seven, which number shall constitute a quorum. The District Superintendent shall preside.

§ 3. Said Court of Appeals shall be competent to hear appeals which may be presented to it from any Pastoral Charge on the District, due notice having been given to all concerned.

§ 4. If the District Superintendent shall find the convening of such a Court to be impracticable, or seriously inconvenient to the parties involved, with due regard to the rights and wishes of the Appellant, he shall have the appeal heard by a Quarterly Conference within his District; in which case no one who was in any way connected with the trial shall sit as a member of the Quarterly Conference, to hear the appeal.

¶ 307. Any member of the Church against whom judgment is rendered by a Committee on Trial may appeal from such judgment to the Court of Appeals for Members as hereinbefore constituted, by giving written notice of his intention to the Preacher in Charge and to the District Superintendent within thirty days after said judgment is rendered.

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## CHAPTER XII

### GENERAL DIRECTIONS

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#### I. Testimony and Notice

¶ 308, § 1. The testimony of a witness who is not a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall not be rejected on that account.

§ 2. The testimony of an absent witness may be taken before the Preacher in Charge where such witness resides, or before a Preacher appointed by the District Superintendent of the District within which

such witness resides; provided, that sufficient notice of the time and place of taking such testimony shall have been given to the adverse party.

§ 3. If in any case the accused person, after due notice has been given him, shall refuse or neglect to appear at the time and place set for a hearing, the investigation or trial may proceed in his absence.

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## II. Records

¶ 309, § 1. In all investigations or trials the records should be accurate and full; they shall include the proceedings in detail and all the documents admitted, together with the charges, specifications, and findings, and shall be approved and attested by the President and Secretary. In all investigations the Presiding Officer shall appoint a Secretary to keep a record of the proceedings and documents, of which records, when properly attested, the said Presiding Officer shall be the custodian. The custodian shall deliver the entire record to the President or Secretary of the Conference or Committee to which the case shall go for final disposition.

§ 2. In the trial of a member of the Church the Preacher in Charge shall appoint the Secretary, and the said Preacher in Charge shall be the custodian of the records, when properly attested. If no appeal be taken, he shall deliver the records to the Recording Steward for preservation. If an appeal be taken, he shall deliver the records to the President of the proper Appellate Court, and after they have been used in this Court they shall be returned by the Secretary to the Recording Steward of the Charge from which they came.

§ 3. The Secretaries of Quarterly, District, and Annual Conferences and of the General Conference shall be the custodians of the records, which in all cases shall be made by them or their Assistants, of all trials occurring in their bodies respectively; and in case of appeal, they shall deliver said records to the President or Secretary of the proper Appellate Court. After the said appeal has been heard, the records shall be returned to the Secretary of the Conference from which they came.

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### III. Counsel

¶ 310. In all cases of investigation or trial where counsel has not been provided for either the Church or the accused, such counsel shall be appointed as follows:

§ 1. In the investigation of a Bishop or of a Missionary Bishop, counsel shall be appointed by the officer presiding; and in case of a trial, counsel shall be appointed by the General Conference. Such counsel shall be either Ministers or members in good standing in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

§ 2. In the investigation of a Member of an Annual Conference, counsel shall be appointed by the District Superintendent; and in case of trial the appointment shall be by the Annual Conference. In either case such counsel shall be Members of an Annual Conference.

§ 3. In all other cases, counsel shall be appointed by the Presiding Officer and shall be Ministers or members in good standing in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

#### IV. Charges

¶ 311, § 1. In no case shall charges or testimony be held as privileged so as to protect the accuser from the consequences of false and malicious prosecution; and both Ministers and Members should be warned against making hasty or insufficiently supported charges.

§ 2. Amendments may be made to a bill of charges up to the time of the opening of the trial, at the discretion of the Presiding Officer, provided they relate to the form of statement only and do not change the nature of the alleged offense and do not introduce new matter of which the accused has not had due notice.

§ 3. Amendments to charges against Members of an Annual Conference shall be presented in the Conference and ruled upon by the Bishop presiding before the case is committed to the Select Number for trial.

§ 4. A charge of slander shall not be entertained unless signed by the person alleged to have been slandered.

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#### V. Trials

¶ 312, § 1. In all cases of investigation or trial the required notification to persons accused and to such witnesses as either party may name shall be in writing, and shall issue in the name of the Church and be signed by the President or the last appointed Secretary of the tribunal which is to investigate or try the case. Said notification shall be delivered personally or sent by registered mail to the last known post-office address of the person to be notified.

§ 2. In all cases, sufficient time shall be allowed for the person to appear at the given place and time, and for the accused to prepare for the investigation or trial; and the President of the tribunal to investigate or try the case shall decide what constitutes "sufficient time."

§ 3. In all cases of investigation or trial both parties shall have the right of challenge for cause, and it shall be the duty of the Presiding Officer to see, if possible, that there be present a sufficient number of properly qualified persons as substitutes to prevent the number from being reduced below that required for the investigation or trial.

§ 4. In case of investigation, trial, or appeal the Presiding Officer shall not deliver a charge, reviewing or explaining the evidence or setting forth the merits of the case; but he shall remain and preside until the judgment is expressed, the findings completed, and the record signed; but without expressing any opinion on the law or facts unless the parties in interest be called in.

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## VI. Appeals

¶ 313, § 1. An appeal shall not be allowed in any case in which the accused has failed or refused to be present in person or by counsel at his trial. But appeals, regularly taken, shall be heard by the proper Appellate Court unless it shall appear to the said Court that the Appellant has forfeited his right to appeal by misconduct, such as refusal to abide by the finding of the Trial Court, withdrawal from the Church, or failure to appear in person or by counsel to prosecute the appeal.

§ 2. The right of appeal when once forfeited by

neglect or otherwise cannot be revived by any subsequent Appellate Court.

§ 3. The right to take and to prosecute an appeal shall not be affected by the death of the person entitled to such right. His heirs or legal representatives may prosecute such appeal as he would be entitled to do if he were living.

§ 4. In no case shall an appeal operate as a suspension of sentence. The finding of the Trial Court must stand until it is modified or reversed by the proper Appellate Court.

§ 5. The records and documents of the trial, and these only, shall be used as evidence in the hearing of any appeal.

§ 6. In all cases where an appeal is made, and admitted by the Appellate Court, after the charges, findings, and evidence have been read and the arguments concluded, the parties shall withdraw, and the Appellate Court shall consider and decide the case. It may reverse, in whole or in part, the findings of the Trial Court, or it may remand the case for a new trial. It may determine what penalty, not higher than that affixed at the trial, shall be imposed. If it neither reverse, in whole or in part, the judgment of the Trial Court, nor remand the case for a new trial, nor modify the penalty, that judgment shall stand. But the Appellate Court shall not reverse the judgment, nor remand the case for a new trial, on account of errors plainly not affecting the result.

§ 7. In all cases the right of appeal shall be exhausted when the case has been heard once on its merits in the proper Appellate Court; but Questions of Law may be carried on appeal, step by step, to the General Conference.

§ 8. If in any case of appeal of a Member of an Annual Conference, of a Bishop, or of a Missionary Bishop, the Appellate Court is convinced that new evidence has been discovered material to the issue, it may remand the case for a new trial.

§ 9. If, within sixty days after the conviction of a member of the Church, he shall make application in writing to the Preacher in Charge for a new trial on the ground of newly discovered evidence, and submit therewith a written statement of the same, and if it shall appear to the Preacher in Charge that such evidence is material to the issue involved, he shall grant a new trial.

§ 10. In no case shall a new trial be granted upon newly discovered evidence which could have been obtained for the trial in the exercise of due diligence, or which is merely cumulative in its effect.

§ 11. In all cases of appeal the Appellant, at the time he gives notice of his appeal, shall furnish to the officer receiving such notice, and to the counsel for the Church, a written statement of the grounds of his appeal; and the hearing in the Appellate Court shall be limited to the grounds set forth in such statement.

§ 12. When any Appellate Court shall reverse, in whole or in part, the findings of a Trial Court, or remand the case for a new trial, or change the penalty imposed by that court, it shall return to the Annual Conference or to the secretary of the Trial Court a statement of the grounds of its action.

§ 13. The order of appeals on Questions of Law shall be as follows: From the decision of the Preacher in Charge to the District Superintendent presiding in the Quarterly or District Conference; from the

decision of the District Superintendent to the Bishop presiding in the Annual Conference; and from the decision of the Bishop to the Judicial Conference, in case of appeal; otherwise to the General Conference.

§ 14. When an appeal is taken on a Question of Law, written notice of the same shall be served on the Secretary of the body in which the decision has been rendered, whose duty it shall be to see that an exact statement of the question submitted and the ruling of the Chair thereon be entered on the Journal. He shall then make and certify a copy of the said question and ruling and transmit the same to the Secretary of the body to which the appeal goes. The Secretary who thus receives said certified copy shall present the same in open Conference and as soon as practicable lay it before the Presiding Officer for his ruling thereon; which ruling must be rendered before the final adjournment of that body, that said ruling together with the original question and ruling may be entered on the Journal of that Conference. The same course shall be followed in all subsequent appeals.



**PART VI**  
**TEMPORAL ECONOMY**

- IV 7877
- I. MINISTERIAL SUPPORT**
  - II. CHURCH PROPERTY**
  - III. LADIES' AID SOCIETIES**

## CHAPTER I

### MINISTERIAL SUPPORT

#### I. Stewards

¶ 314. There shall be not less than three nor more than thirty-one Stewards in each Circuit or Station, except that in Circuits or Stations of over five hundred members, there may be added one Steward for each additional one hundred members. After each annual election one of the Stewards shall be elected by the Quarterly Conference Recording Steward, one District Steward, one Reserve District Steward, and one Communion Steward, for each appointment. But when two or more Pastoral Charges shall be united the Stewards of the Several Pastoral Charges shall hold office until the newly created Quarterly Conference shall elect.

¶ 315. Let the Stewards be persons of solid piety who are members of the Church in the Pastoral Charge, who both know and love Methodist Doctrine and Discipline, and are of good natural and acquired abilities to transact the temporal business of the Church.

¶ 316. The Pastor shall have the right to nominate the Stewards, but the Quarterly Conference shall confirm or reject such nominations. The Stewards elected at the Fourth Quarterly Conference unless otherwise provided by direct action of that Conference, shall enter upon the discharge of their duties on the adjournment of the next Annual Conference,

and shall hold office for one year, or until their successors are elected.

¶ 317. The duties of Stewards are: To take an exact account of all the money or other resources received for the support of the Ministers in the Charge, and to apply the same as the Discipline directs; to make an accurate return of every expenditure of money, whether for the Ministers or the poor members of the Church; to seek the needy and distressed in order to relieve and comfort them; to inform the Ministers of any sick or disorderly persons; to tell the Ministers what they think wrong in them; to attend the Quarterly Meetings, the Official Board Meetings, and the Leaders and Stewards' Meetings of the Charge; to give advice, if asked, in planning the Circuit; to attend committees for the application of money to Churches; to give counsel in matters of arbitration; to provide the elements for the Lord's Supper; to write circular letters to the Societies in the Pastoral Charge, exhorting them to greater liberality, if need be, and urging systematic giving in accordance with Special Advice VII, and also to let them know, when occasion requires, the state of the temporal concerns of the Charge.

¶ 318. Stewards are accountable for the faithful performance of their duties to the Quarterly Conference of the Charge, which shall have power to dismiss or change them at pleasure.

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## II. Ministerial Support

NOTE.—¶¶ 319-322 are the same as ¶ 112 and are repeated here for the sake of clearness.

¶ 319. The Quarterly Conference of any Charge

may organize and continue during its pleasure an Official Board, to be composed of all the Members of the Quarterly Conference. In the case of circuits the Quarterly Conference may organize, and continue during its pleasure, Official Boards for the several appointments of the Charge, such Official Boards to be composed of the Members of the Quarterly Conference attached to the respective appointments.

¶ 320. The Official Board shall hold its meetings monthly on a stated day. It shall be presided over by the Pastor, or, in his absence, by a Vice-Chairman regularly elected; and there shall also be chosen a Secretary, a Financial Secretary, and two Treasurers, one for the local budget and one for the Benevolences. When so organized the Official Board may discharge the duties of the Leaders and Stewards' Meeting. When such action is taken it shall make void such provisions of the Discipline, under "Ministerial Support," as relate to the financial duties of the Stewards.

¶¶ 317, 323. The duties of the Secretary are to make a record of the proceedings of the Official Board and send the same to the fourth Quarterly Conference for approval, after examination by Committee on Church Records. The duties of the Financial Secretary are to receive all moneys coming to the Church, keep an account with each individual subscriber, and promptly turn over said moneys to the respective Treasurers and report to each monthly meeting. The duties of the Treasurer of the local budget are to receive from the Financial Secretary all moneys received for the local budget, and disburse the same as ordered by the Official Board or Quarterly Conference and report to each monthly meeting. The duties of the Treas-

urer of Benevolences are to receive from the Financial Secretary all moneys intended for Benevolences and disburse them as follows:

(a) Benevolences ordered by the General Conference which shall be forwarded monthly to the Treasurer of the Committee on Conservation and Advance. (¶ 545.)

(b) Benevolences ordered by the Annual Conference, which shall be forwarded as directed by the Annual Conference.

(c) Other benevolences and special collections as ordered by the Quarterly Conference or Official Board. He shall keep a true record and report monthly to the Official Board or Quarterly Conference.

¶ 321. The Official Board or, where no such Board is organized, the Quarterly Conference shall further organize by the selection, with the consent of the Pastor, of committees for the care of Church property, finance, music, and such other committees as may be thought necessary. The Finance Committee shall consist of not less than three nor more than seven members, whose duty it shall be before the close of the fiscal year to prepare an estimate of the current expenses and benevolences for the ensuing year. This estimate shall include the amount necessary for ministerial support, viz.: For Pastor's salary and house rent, District Superintendent, Bishops, and Conference Claimants. Also the amount deemed necessary for current expenses, such as interest on indebtedness, heat and light, music, insurance, repairs and supplies, telephone, printing and postage, janitor, and miscellaneous items. Also for Benevolences as apportioned to each Charge by the Committee on Conservation and Advance. This budget of Benevolences

and Current Expenses shall be presented at a special meeting called to hear the report, or at the last monthly meeting of the fiscal year.

¶ 322. When approved by the Official Board, or Quarterly Conference, immediate steps shall be taken by a personal canvass of the entire membership of the Church and congregation to secure pledges to meet these by weekly payments, so that the result may be known on the last Sunday of the fiscal year, and payment of these pledges begin on the first Sunday of the new fiscal year.

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### III. Support of Pastors

¶ 323, § 1. It shall be the duty of the Quarterly Conference of each Pastoral Charge at the session immediately preceding the Annual Conference to appoint an Estimating Committee, consisting of three or more members of the Church; which committee may be authorized by vote of the Quarterly Conference to determine the minimum amount the Charge shall pay for Pastoral Support for the ensuing Conference year, and report the same to the Superintendent of the District before the next session of the Annual Conference; to which amount shall be added the amount apportioned for the support of Conference Claimants, Bishops, and the District Superintendent; and the Stewards shall provide for raising the sum thus required, when the method prescribed in ¶¶ 319-322 is not in force. In case of failure to authorize the Estimating Committee as above, or in case it may seem desirable to increase the estimate, the Committee, after conferring with the Pastor, shall report the amount of support agreed upon for that year to

the first Quarterly Conference, to the action of which the report shall be subject.

§ 2. The Traveling and Moving Expenses of the Ministers shall not be included in the estimate, but shall be paid by the Stewards as a separate item.

¶ 324. It shall be the duty of each Annual Conference, whenever practicable, to organize Conference Sustentation Fund Societies to supplement the inadequate ministerial support in those Pastoral Charges which are unable to furnish a sufficient support.

¶ 325. Should the people among whom a Member of an Annual Conference has labored fail to pay him his allowance, he may present a claim for the same to the Conference, and the Conference may authorize the Conference Stewards to pay a part or all of said claim out of funds at its disposal for such purpose, and shall include in its report the name of the Pastoral Charge with the amount paid. In no case, however, shall the Church or the Conference be held accountable for a final deficiency.

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#### IV. District Stewards and Support of District Superintendents

¶ 326. The duties of District Stewards are: To attend the annual District Stewards' Meeting when called by the District Superintendent, to cooperate with the District Superintendent in carrying out uniformly in the District the Disciplinary plans for Ministerial Support, and to perform the duties specified in ¶¶ 327, 328.

##### PLAN 1

¶ 327. There shall be held annually, in every District, a meeting of the District Stewards (¶ 326),

whose duty it shall be, with the advice of the District Superintendent presiding in such District Stewards' Meeting, to make an estimate of the amount necessary to furnish a comfortable support for the District Superintendent; and to apportion the same, including House Rent and Traveling Expenses, and also the claims for the support of Conference Claimants and Bishops as apportioned to the District by the Annual Conference, among the Pastoral Charges in the District, according to their several ability; and in all cases the District Superintendent shall share with the Pastors in his District in proportion to what they have respectively received. The District Stewards shall determine a date within each quarter of the Conference year to be known as Settlement Day; on which date the Pastors, District Superintendents, Conference Claimants, and Episcopal Claims shall be paid, if not previously paid at the time of the Quarterly Conference, said date to be not later than the middle of the quarter. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer of the Fund for Ministerial Support on each Charge to make remittance on said date by mail or otherwise to the District Superintendent of the *pro rata* amount due him. The minutes of the District Stewards' Meeting shall be kept by a Secretary chosen for the purpose, who shall also record the same in a book of which the District Superintendent shall be the custodian.

#### PLAN 2—ALTERNATIVE

¶ 328, § 1. Any Annual Conference desiring to do so may by a majority vote, instead of the above, adopt the following plan:

§ 2. There shall be organized in the Conference a

Commission on Finance to consist of the several District Superintendents, together with one Minister and two laymen from each District.

§ 3. The commission shall organize by electing its own officers. These shall be a President, Secretary, and Treasurer. There may be a Treasurer in each District to hold and distribute the funds of that District.

§ 4. It shall be the duty of the Commission on Finance of the Annual Conference to make an estimate of the amount necessary to furnish a sufficient and equitable support for the District Superintendent of each District in the Conference.

§ 5. The several District Superintendents shall be authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the commission for their salaries monthly, according to the credits of their Districts in the treasury, or each on the Treasurer of his own District, as the commission may determine.

§ 6. The Conference Commission on Finance shall apportion the sum required to be raised for this purpose among the Charges on such basis as the Conference may direct. The commission shall also apportion to the Charges, on the same basis, the amount assigned the District for the support of Bishops and Conference Claimants.

§ 7. The amount apportioned to each Pastoral Charge for the support of District Superintendents shall be a *pro rata* claim with that of the Bishops, Pastor, and Conference Claimants. Conference Claimants, Bishops, and Pastor shall be entitled to their claims only to the extent to which the claim of the District Superintendent is also met by the Charge.

§ 8. It shall be the duty of the District Stewards to

see that the fund for the support of the District Superintendents be raised and forwarded monthly to the Treasurer of the Commission on Finance of the Conference, or to the Treasurer of the District Superintendents' Fund for the District.

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### V. Support of Bishops

¶ 329, § 1. It shall be the duty of the Book Committee to make an estimate of the amount necessary to furnish a competent support for each Effective Bishop, considering the number and condition of his family.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the Book Committee, in fixing the allowance of Retired Bishops and of the widows of Bishops and minor or helpless children of deceased Bishops, to inquire carefully into the financial condition of each and to fix the allowance in every case at such a sum as may be required for a comfortable support; provided, that the amount so fixed for a Retired Bishop shall not exceed one-half the amount allowed for the support of effective Bishops, excluding house rent and clerical assistance.

¶ 330. The Bishops are authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Episcopal Fund for the amounts allowed to them, inclusive of properly audited accounts for official travel, clerical assistance, and house rent or maintenance, as authorized by the Book Committee.

¶ 331. The Book Committee shall apportion the aggregate sum required to be raised for these purposes among the Annual Conferences, on the basis of the total amount raised in the respective Annual Conferences for Pastoral Support including rental

value of the parsonages, but exclusive of Missionary appropriations, and the Annual Conferences shall apportion the same to the several Districts, and the District Stewards shall apportion the amount apportioned to the District among the several Pastoral Charges. The amount apportioned to each Pastoral Charge for the support of the Bishops shall be a *pro rata* claim with that of the Pastor, Conference Claimants, and the District Superintendent; and the Pastor, Conference Claimants, and District Superintendent shall be entitled to their allowances only to the extent to which the claims of the Bishops are also met by the Charge or District with which such Pastor, Conference Claimants, and District Superintendent are connected, in accordance with ¶¶ 323, 328, § 7. It shall be the duty of the Annual Conferences to see that the amounts apportioned to the different Pastoral Charges for the support of the Bishops be raised and forwarded quarterly, when practicable, to the Treasurer of the Episcopal Fund.

¶ 332. The Treasurer of the Episcopal Fund shall be elected quadrennially by the Book Committee; he shall charge the sums paid to the Bishops, and to the widows and minor or helpless children of deceased Bishops, to the Episcopal Fund; and all collections received from the different Charges for the support of the Bishops shall be credited to said fund. The Treasurer shall report annually to the Book Committee and Annual Conferences the amount received from the several Annual Conferences on account of said fund, and also the expenditures made; and shall also make to the General Conference a full and detailed exhibit of such receipts and expenditures for the preceding four years.

**VI. Support of Conference Claimants****1. CLAIM**

¶ 333, § 1. The claim to a comfortable support inheres in the Gospel Ministry and rightfully inures to the benefit of the Preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church, when he is admitted to membership in an Annual Conference. Such claim is not invalidated by his being retired, and at his death passes to the dependent members of his family.

§ 2. Retired Ministers, the widows of deceased Ministers (during their widowhood, and while they remain members of the Methodist Episcopal Church), and their children under sixteen years of age, are Conference Claimants and beneficiaries of the moneys as hereinafter provided.<sup>1</sup>

**2. PERMANENT ENDOWMENTS**

¶ 334, § 1. Moneys for the permanent endowment shall be held by the Board of Conference Claimants, located at Chicago, Illinois, and shall be administered through its connectional *Permanent Fund*. The Board of Conference Claimants shall also administer all gifts and bequests the custody of which is not otherwise designated, the income of which is intended for the use of Conference Claimants.

§ 2. Moneys contributed to the Board of Conference Claimants shall be sent to the Treasurer of the Board of Conference Claimants, Chicago, Illinois, who shall issue a voucher for the same; or they may be paid to the Treasurer of the Annual Conference, who shall receipt therefor and forward the amount

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<sup>1</sup> For relief of Retired Local Preachers, see ¶ 226, 617.

so received to the Treasurer of the Board of Conference Claimants.

¶ 335. Annual Conferences are authorized to establish and maintain investment Funds; Preachers' Aid Societies; and organizations and funds of similar character, under such names, plans, rules, and regulations as they may determine, the income from which shall be applied to the support of Conference Claimants. It is recommended that each Annual Conference provide an incorporated Board to administer its permanent funds.

### 3. ANNIVERSARIES

¶ 336, § 1. *Conference Anniversary.* Each Annual Conference shall hold one service during its session, to be known as the Conference Claimants' Anniversary, for the promotion of the interests of Conference Claimants.

§ 2. *Joint Session.* The Annual and Lay Electoral Conferences are recommended to hold a Joint Session quadrennially in the interests of Conference Claimants, and, jointly, to adopt such measures as shall promote the active cooperation of Preachers and people in the liberal support of this cause.

§ 3. *Veterans' Day.* Each Congregation shall observe annually one Sunday as Conference Claimants' Day. The second Sunday in May shall be so observed, unless another day be substituted by the Annual Conference, and shall be known as "Veterans' Day."

### 4. APPORTIONMENT

¶ 337. The Annual Conference, through its Stewards, shall determine the total amount required to pay the annuity and necessitous claims, first comput-

ing the amount required for all the Conference Claimants, and then subtracting from such amount the income received during the previous year from the Chartered Fund, the Book Concern and the Board of Conference Claimants and from all other sources for this purpose, except the receipts from the Pastoral Charges. The remainder shall be equitably apportioned by the Conference Stewards to the several Pastoral Charges; provided, however, that the amount asked for the necessitous cases shall be subject to the approval of the Annual Conference.

#### 5. ESTIMATING COMMITTEE

¶ 338. The Quarterly Conference of the Pastoral Charge to which a Conference Claimant is related shall require its Committee on Estimating Ministerial Support to estimate also the amount necessary to provide a comfortable support for such Conference Claimant, giving full information in case of special need. After this estimate has been considered and approved by the Quarterly Conference, it shall be certified by the president and secretary thereof and sent to the Secretary of the Conference Stewards for their guidance.

#### 6. CONFERENCE STEWARDS

¶ 339, § 1. Each Annual Conference shall elect Conference Stewards, who may be either Preachers or laymen, arranged in classes so that one third of the Members shall be elected each year.

§ 2. The Conference Stewards shall ascertain what Claimants are in special need, *i. e., whose needs require more than can be paid to them from the Annuity Distribution*, and, using as a general basis the estimates received from the Quarterly Confer-

ences and other available information, shall make an equitable allowance to them, which shall be paid *pro rata* from moneys available for that purpose.

§ 3. Upon the recommendation of the Annual Conference, the Conference Stewards may consider and act upon any claim which the Quarterly Conference may have overlooked.

§ 4. Each Annual Conference shall determine whether or not its Conference Stewards shall make a preliminary report; and, if so, whether or not it shall be read in open Conference, or the action of the Conference Stewards be final.

§ 5. An Annual Conference shall have authority to recognize as Claimants the widow and minor children of a former Member by agreement with the Conference of which he was a Member at the time of his death.

§ 6. The amount received each year from the Pastoral Charges shall be divided between the Annuity and Necessitous Distribution in proportion to the amount asked at the previous session of the Annual Conference.

§ 7. An Annual Conference may authorize its Board of Stewards to pay the annuity claims of its claimants quarterly in advance, the first payment to be made during the session, or as soon as possible after the adjournment, of the Annual Conference, and the balance of the funds so received shall be held in trust by the Board of Stewards and paid out in quarterly payments during the Conference year.

§ 8. The Conference Stewards shall forward to the Board of Conference Claimants a certified copy of their Report, made on blanks furnished by the Board of Conference Claimants, in which shall be shown

the annuities and allowances made to each Conference Claimant, together with additional data for the guidance of the Board of Conference Claimants in making its Dividend for Connectional Relief and in preparing its Annual Report.

## 7. METHODS OF DISTRIBUTION

¶ 340, § 1. There are three methods for the distribution of moneys raised for the support of Conference Claimants, viz.:

1. The *Annuity* Distribution to Conference Claimants, by Annual Conferences. ¶ 341.

2. The *Necessitous* Distribution to Conference Claimants, by Annual Conferences. ¶ 343.

3. The *Connectional Relief* Distribution to Annual Conferences, by the Board of Conference Claimants. ¶¶ 481-482.

§ 2. Moneys for the above mentioned purposes shall be derived from public collections, private gifts, bequests, and other sources; and that the Church may effectually meet the sacred obligation to provide a comfortable support for Conference Claimants, the rules and regulations for obtaining and administering the funds established for such purpose shall be observed by all Pastors, District Superintendents, and Bishops, and by all Pastoral Charges, Quarterly, District, and Annual Conferences.

### 1. *The Annual Conference Annuity Distribution.*

¶ 341. The Annual Conference Annuity Distribution shall be made to Conference Claimants by the Conference Stewards according to the following regulations:

§ 1. Retired Ministers are entitled to annuities for their years of service in the effective relation in the

Methodist Episcopal Church, provided they have reached the age of sixty-five years or more at the time of retirement or have given forty years or more of service to the Christian ministry, or have been retired because of disability. Ministers who have been or may be retired for any reason other than these may be granted relief from the funds for Necessitous Distribution, but shall have no claim on the funds for Annuity Distribution.

§ 2. The annuity claim of any Retired Minister shall not be less than one seventieth (1-70) of the average salary (house rent excluded) of the effective members of his Conference, who are Pastors or District Superintendents, multiplied by the number of years while he was in the effective relation as a member of an Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, including two years on trial.

§ 3. The annuity claim of a widow shall be determined by the number of years during which she was the wife of a Preacher while he was in the effective relation, as a Member of an Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, including two years on trial, and shall be three fourths of the annuity claim of a Retired Minister for such term of years.

§ 4. The term of a father's effective service shall determine the annuity claim of his child, which shall be one fourth of the claim of a Retired Minister, for such term. In case a dependent child is continued in high school or college, the age limit may be increased from sixteen to eighteen years.

§ 5. Whenever a Conference Claimant shall be in debt to the Book Concern, the Conference shall have power to appropriate the amount of the annuity claim, or any part thereof, to the payment of such debt.

§ 6. For a year at a time and without prejudice to their rights, Conference Claimants may voluntarily relinquish their claim.

§ 7. On recommendation of the Conference Stewards the claim may be disallowed by action of the Annual Conference, taken after opportunity to be heard has been given.

¶ 342. Moneys designated for Annuity Distribution shall be *distributed on the basis of service*, and shall consist of:

§ 1. The dividends of the Book Concern and the Chartered Fund.

§ 2. The income from any investments made by the Annual Conference for Annuity Distribution and held in trust for this purpose.

§ 3. Such gifts and bequests as are made for Annuity Distribution.

§ 4. Such proportion of the money received from the Pastoral Charges for Conference Claimants as is for Annuity Distribution.

## 2. *The Annual Conference Necessitous Distribution*

¶ 343. Moneys designated for Necessitous Distribution shall be distributed by the Conference Stewards on *the basis of special need* and shall consist of:

§ 1. The annual Dividend for Connectional Relief paid to the Annual Conference by the Board of Conference Claimants.

§ 2. Such proportion of the money received from the Pastoral Charges as is for Necessitous Distribution.

§ 3. The income from such gifts and bequests as are made for necessitous distribution.

§ 4. Gifts and bequests made for immediate distribution.

§ 5. Income arising from investments made by Relief and Aid Societies of Annual Conference, if so determined by them.

### 3. *Connectional Relief Distribution*

¶ 344. For the Connectional Relief Distribution to Annual Conferences by the Board of Conference Claimants, see ¶¶ 481-482.

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## CHAPTER II

### CHURCH PROPERTY

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#### I. **Trustees—Appointment and Duties**

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NOTE.—Wherever the general State law does not meet the needs of our Church administration, the Annual Conference, through its Board of Trustees, or otherwise, is authorized to seek such enactments as will recognize the authority of our Church laws wherever they may not conflict with the Constitution of such State.

¶ 345. Each Board of Trustees of our Church property shall consist of not less than three nor more than nine persons, each of whom shall be not less than twenty-one years of age, and two thirds of whom shall be members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

¶ 346. In all cases where the law of the State or Territory or Country fixes the mode of election, qualifications of voters and trustees, or any other matters pertaining to their election, let its requirements be carefully observed.

¶ 347. In all other cases the Trustees may be elected by ballot by members of the Church not less than twenty-one years of age, at a meeting called for that purpose at a date near to and not later than the

fourth Quarterly Conference. Ten or more members of the required age must unite in a written request for such meeting, and shall present it to the Pastor, or, if there be no Pastor, to the District Superintendent, who shall thereupon fix the date and place of the election, and notice thereof shall be given publicly from the pulpit for two Sundays prior to the date fixed.

¶ 348. But in Churches which do not come under the provisions of ¶ 347, and when no such written request shall have been made by the members, the Trustees shall be elected annually by the fourth Quarterly Conference of the Charge. One third of the Trustees may be elected each year to serve for three years. In case of failure to elect at the proper time a subsequent Quarterly Conference may elect. Trustees shall hold their office until the close of the Quarterly Conference at which their successors shall have been elected.

¶ 349, § 1. All the foregoing provisions shall apply both to the creation of new Boards and to the filling of vacancies, whether for houses of worship or for dwellings for the Preachers.

§ 2. Charters obtained for Church property, in the manner of creating and filling Boards of Trustees, shall conform to the provisions of this chapter.

¶ 350. The Board or Boards of Trustees in any Charge shall hold all Church property, using so much of the proceeds as may be needful to pay debts or to make repairs, and shall be amenable to the Quarterly Conference. They shall hold all trusts and invest Trust Funds coming under their control, in conformity with the laws of the State, and shall deposit trust funds in savings banks or invest them

only in securities which are lawful for Savings Banks or Trustees. They shall make to the first Quarterly Conference their annual report in writing for their last fiscal year, which report should be previously adopted by the Board of Trustees. This report shall embrace the following items: 1. Number of churches and parsonages. 2. Their probable values. 3. Other real estate and personal property held. 4. Title by which each piece of real estate is held. 5. Income therefrom and how expended. 6. Receipts from congregation and how expended. 7. Amount raised during the year for building and improving churches and parsonages. 8. Debts and how contracted. 9. Amount of insurance on each property and whether restricted by coinsurance or other limiting conditions. 10. Who is custodian of and where are the legal papers kept? 11. Detailed list of trusts: funds, where invested; incomes, how applied.

¶ 351. Trustees, or other Church Officers, having charge of our Church property shall not prevent or interfere with the legal and proper uses of such property as intended by the laws and usages of the denomination, and they shall not use the property for purposes not in harmony with the law and the intention for which the property was created. They shall not prevent or interfere with the Pastor or other duly authorized Ministers of the denomination in the use of said property for religious services or other proper meetings recognized by the law and usage of the denomination. Further, no Pastor or other Officer shall abolish or prevent a service in the Church property which has been ordered by or according to Church law or authority.

¶ 352. In no case shall the Trustees of Church or Parsonage property mortgage or encumber the real estate for the current expenses of the Church.

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## II. Conveyance of Church Property

¶ 353. Churches may become incorporated in all cases where the law of the land permits, and it is deemed that the welfare of the Churches will be promoted thereby. The articles of incorporation or Charter shall provide that the corporation shall support the doctrine, and shall be subject to the law, usages and ministerial appointments of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as from time to time established, made and declared, by the lawful authority of the said Church. The officers of the corporation shall be a Board of Trustees, elected and organized according to the law of the Methodist Episcopal Church, unless otherwise determined by the paramount law of the land. The Charter shall also provide that the corporation shall have power to acquire, hold, improve, encumber, exchange, sell and convey, and dispose of property, both real and personal, *in fee simple* or otherwise.

¶ 354. Property for Church purposes should be acquired and held by an absolute title, *in fee simple*, if possible. In the case of incorporated Churches, the conveyance should be made directly to the corporation. In other cases, the conveyance should be made to Trustees, heirs, and assigns; or, to Trustees, their successors, and assigns, as the law of the land may require; in either case setting forth the names of the Trustees. Whether conveyed to a corporation, or to trustees, the deed of Conveyance shall contain a

trust clause in the following words, or in words to this effect, to wit: "*In trust for the use of the A. B. Methodist Episcopal Church [giving the name of the Church acquiring the property, incorporated or unincorporated, as the case may be]; subject to the doctrines, law, usages, and ministerial appointments of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as from time to time established, made and declared, by the lawful authority of the said Church; and if the said property shall be sold or encumbered, the proceeds of the sale or encumbrance shall be applied to the use aforesaid; subject, however, to the provisions of the law of the Church relating to abandoned Church property; and of that forbidding the mortgaging of real estate for current expenses.*"

¶ 355. Churches, incorporated or not, may encumber, sell, and dispose of their real estate for the use aforesaid, when they deem it advantageous; in all cases observing the requirements of the law of the land, and of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In all transactions affecting real estate, Church officers should be careful to obtain and follow the direction of competent advisers, as to the substance, form, execution and recording, of all contracts, deeds, mortgages and other instruments of writing, involved in the said transactions.

¶ 356, § 1. Wherever it shall be found by any District Superintendent that it is impracticable to incorporate a local Society, or to form a Board of Trustees, at places where work should be undertaken and maintained, property acquired for Church or Parsonage purposes may be deeded to the Annual Conference within the bounds of which the property is located, if the laws of the State will permit, in trust

for the local Society existing or in contemplation. In similar cases where the State law requires Church property to be held by Boards of Trustees, the Board of Trustees of the Annual Conference may hold the property in trust for the local Society until such time as the local Society shall form a Board of Trustees, or until other Disciplinary disposal of the property shall be made.

§ 2. When a donation is received from the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension in case the property involved is held in trust by the Board of Trustees of the Annual Conference no trust bond and mortgage shall be required by the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, provided the Board of Trustees of the Annual Conference agrees, with the approval of the Annual Conference, that the property shall not be re-deeded without protecting the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, and that the annual appropriations to the Conference may be withheld, if need be, for such protection.

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### III. Building Churches

¶ 357. Let all our Churches be plain and decent, and with free seats wherever practicable; and not more expensive than is absolutely unavoidable.

¶ 358. In order more effectually to prevent our people from contracting debts which they are not able to discharge, it shall be the duty of the Quarterly Conference of every Charge where it is contemplated to build a house or houses of worship, to secure the ground or lot on which such house or houses are to be built, according to our Deed of

Settlement, which Deed must be legally executed; and said Quarterly Conference shall also appoint a judicious Committee of at least three members of our Church, who shall form an estimate of the amount necessary to build; and three fourths of the money required, according to such estimate, shall be secured or subscribed before any such building shall be commenced.

¶ 359. In all cases where debts for building houses of worship have been, or may be, incurred contrary to, or in disregard of the foregoing recommendation, our members and friends are requested to discountenance such a course by declining to give pecuniary aid to any agents who shall travel beyond their own Circuits or Districts for the collection of funds for the discharge of such debts; except in such peculiar cases as may be approved by an Annual Conference, or in case of such agents as may be appointed by their authority.

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#### IV. Mortgaging and Sale of Church Property

¶ 360. If the Trustees of Church property, or any of them, have advanced any sum or sums of money, or are responsible for any sum or sums of money, on account of said property, and they, the said Trustees, are obliged to pay the said sums of money, they, or a majority of them, shall be authorized to raise the said sum or sums of money, by a mortgage on the said premises, or by selling the said premises, after notice given to the Pastor or Minister of the congregation attending divine service on the said premises, if the money due be not paid to the said Trustees, or their successors, within one year after such notice is given.

If such mortgaging or sale take place, the said Trustees or their successors, after paying the debts and other expenses which are due from the money arising from such mortgaging or sale, shall pay the balance, if not needed and applied for the purchase or improvement of other property for the use of the Church, to the Annual Conference within whose bounds such property is located; and in case of a reorganization of said society, and the erection of a new Church building, within five years after such transfer of funds, then the said Annual Conference shall repay the said new corporation the moneys which it has received from the Church or society.

¶ 361. Whenever it shall become necessary for the payment of debts, or with a view to reinvestment, to mortgage or make a sale of Church property that may have been conveyed to Trustees of the Church corporation for either of the foregoing purposes, said Trustees or their successors, upon application to Quarterly Conference, may obtain an order for the mortgage or sale—a majority of all the members of such Quarterly Conference concurring, and the Pastor and the District Superintendent of the District consenting—with such limitations and restrictions as said Quarterly Conference may judge necessary; and said Trustees so authorized may mortgage or sell and convey, such property;

*Provided*, that in States or Territories where the civil or statute law provides any manner of alienation, conveyance, and control of real estate inconsistent with the foregoing, such mortgage, sale, alienation, or control may be effected pursuant to the provisions of the laws of such State or territory; and

*Provided*, that in all cases the proceeds of the mort-

gage or sale after the payments of debts, if any, if not applied to the purchase or improvement of other property for the same uses, and deeded to the corporation in the same manner, shall be held by such corporation subject to the order of the Annual Conference within the bounds of which such property is located, or of the Trustees of the Conference fund; and

*Provided*, that nothing contained in this or the last preceding paragraph shall prevent the establishment and maintenance of an Endowment Fund for the use and benefit of the existing Church Society or Societies, and said fund shall not be subject to the order of the Annual Conference or the Trustees of the Conference Fund, except as provided in ¶ 363.

¶ 362. Whenever a local society in the United States is no longer able to maintain itself without encumbering or making liable its real estate for current expenses, or whenever by reason of the reduction of its membership or the changing character of the community or population which the Church is intended to serve, it shall become desirable or necessary to discontinue or abandon such location, it shall be the duty of the Trustees and the members of such local Society, when so authorized and directed by a two-thirds vote of the Annual Conference within the bounds of which it is located, and with the consent of the Resident Bishop and of a majority of the District Superintendents, to sell such property and pay over the proceeds to the said Annual Conference; or at the option of said local Society to convey such property to the Annual Conference; subject, however, to return in the same manner and upon the same contingencies as named in ¶ 360.

Such disposition of said property or the proceeds of the sale thereof, or the disposition of the proceeds of the sale of any abandoned property coming within the provisions of ¶ 363, may be made by the Annual Conference as in its judgment will best promote the work of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the Conference concerned, preferring, if possible, the interests of the community in which, or more nearly to which, the said Church property was originally located. *Provided*, the action of the Annual Conference has the approval of the Resident Bishop and the majority of the District Superintendents, any such property or the proceeds of the sale thereof may be used in the erection or the improvement of other Church property, or may be transferred to a duly organized and incorporated City or Rural Society or to a duly constituted Trustee for such uses.

*Provided* further, that in States or Territories where the civil or statute laws provide any manner of alienation, conveyance, and control of real estate, inconsistent with the foregoing, such mortgage, sale, alienation, or control may be effected pursuant to the provisions of the laws of such State or Territory.

¶ 363, § 1. In all cases where Church property is abandoned, or no longer used for the purpose originally designed, it shall be the duty of the Trustees, if any remain, to sell such property and pay over the proceeds to the Annual Conference within the bounds of which it is located; and where no such lawful Trustees remain, it shall be the duty of said Annual Conference to secure the custody of such Church property by such means as the laws of the State may afford, subject to return in the same manner and upon the same contingencies as named in ¶¶ 360, 361.

§ 2. Houses of worship and Parsonages may be removed from one place to another on the same conditions as those on which they may be sold.

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### V. Building and Renting Parsonages

¶ 364. It is recommended by the General Conference that our Ministers advise our friends in general to purchase a lot of ground in each Charge, to build a Parsonage thereon, and to furnish it with at least heavy furniture.

¶ 365. The General Conference recommends to each Charge, in case it is not able to comply with the above request, to rent a house for its married Pastor and his family, and that the Annual Conference assist in providing the rental for such houses as far as it can, when the Pastoral Charges cannot do it.

¶ 366. Wherever there are two or more Societies on a Pastoral Charge a separate Board of Trustees, consisting of not less than three nor more than nine persons, shall be elected by the Societies on said Charge, to be the custodians of the Parsonage property on such Charge. Such Trustees shall have the qualifications required by ¶ 345 of the Discipline for Trustees of Church property, and shall become bodies corporate wherever practicable under the laws of the States and Territories within whose bounds such Parsonage property is located.

¶ 367. The Stewards in each Charge shall be a standing Committee, where no Trustees are constituted for that purpose, to provide houses for the families of our married Ministers, or to assist the Ministers to obtain houses for themselves, when they are appointed to labor among them.

¶ 368. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendents and Ministers to use their influence to carry into effect the above rules, respecting building and renting houses for the accommodation of Ministers and their families. In order to accomplish this, unless other measures be adopted, each Quarterly Conference shall appoint a Committee, which, with the advice and aid of the Ministers and District Superintendents, shall devise such means as may seem wise to raise moneys for that purpose. And it is recommended to the Annual Conferences to make a special inquiry of their Members respecting this part of their duty.

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#### **VI. Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church**

¶ 369. There shall be an incorporated Board of Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, located at Cincinnati, composed of twelve members, divided into classes of three Ministers and three Laymen each. The term of office shall be eight years. Each General Conference shall elect one class, and fill vacancies caused by death, resignation, cessation of membership in the Church, or otherwise. Vacancies occurring in the interval of the General Conference shall be filled for the remainder of the quadrennium by the Bishops.

¶ 370. The Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, located at Cincinnati, Ohio, and incorporated under the laws of the State of Ohio, pursuant to the action of the General Conference, should not be confounded with local Boards of Trustees of Church property referred to in ¶¶ 345-352 of the Discipline, which local Boards have the care only of Church property within the several Pastoral Charges to which

they are related, and are amenable to their respective Quarterly Conferences. The Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church are constituted by the General Conference and made amenable thereto, in order that the Church may have competent representation in legal proceedings and have an authorized body to care for and administer all the property conveyed to it, or committed to it in trust, within the jurisdiction of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States of America.

¶ 371. This corporation shall hold in trust, for the benefit of the Methodist Episcopal Church, any and all donations, bequests, gifts, grants, and funds in trust, etc., that may be given or conveyed directly to the Methodist Episcopal Church or to the Corporation for the Benefit of said Church or for the benefit of Conference Claimants, or for the benefit of any of the benevolent Societies or other Institutions under the patronage or direction of the Church, or for any other benevolent purpose that the Corporation may judge to be in harmony with the purposes for which it was instituted, and to administer the said funds, and the proceeds of the same, in accordance with the directions of the donors, and the interests of the Church contemplated by said donors; provided, that any sums thus donated or bequeathed, but not especially designated for any benevolent object, shall be added to the "Permanent Fund"; and provided, also, that the Corporation shall not be required to accept any gift, bequest, or trust to which may be attached conditions deemed by the Corporation to be unreasonable or inconsistent with the terms of the trust, or likely to produce embarrassment in administration; and having accepted any gift or bequest in trust, it

shall be responsible only for the careful and economical administration of the same, and shall not be held to account to any beneficiary for either the principal or income therefrom beyond what may be secured by fidelity and diligence. Each trust shall be charged with the expense necessary to its care and administration.

¶ 372. It shall be the duty of the Pastor within the bounds of whose Charge any donation, bequest, gift, grant, or trust is made directly to the Methodist Episcopal Church, or to this Corporation—the *Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church*—to give prompt notice thereof to the said Trustees, in order that they may protect and administer the same without delay.

¶ 373. This corporation shall make to each General Conference a full report in which shall be shown the Funds and Properties held in trust and the receipts and disbursements during the quadrennium.

¶ 374. There shall be a Fund known as "The Permanent Fund," to be held by the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the principal of which shall be intact forever, and which shall be invested by said Trustees on first-class securities, and at as favorable rates as can be legally secured.

¶ 375. It shall be the duty of all Ministers to obtain, as far as practicable, contributions to said Fund, by donations, bequests, and otherwise.

¶ 376. The interest accumulating from said Fund shall be subject to the order of the General Conference for the following purposes: 1. To pay the expenses of the General Conference. 2. To pay the expenses of Delegations appointed by the General Conference to Corresponding Bodies. 3. To make up any

deficiencies in the salaries of the Bishops. 4. To relieve the necessities of the Retired Ministers, and of the widows and children of those who have died in the work.

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### **VII. Auditing and Bonding**

¶ 377. All persons holding trust funds, either of an Annual or the General Conference, shall be bonded in a reliable company in a good and sufficient sum, as the Conference may direct, and the Conference shall pay the expense of said bonding. These accounts shall be audited at least once a year.

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## **CHAPTER III**

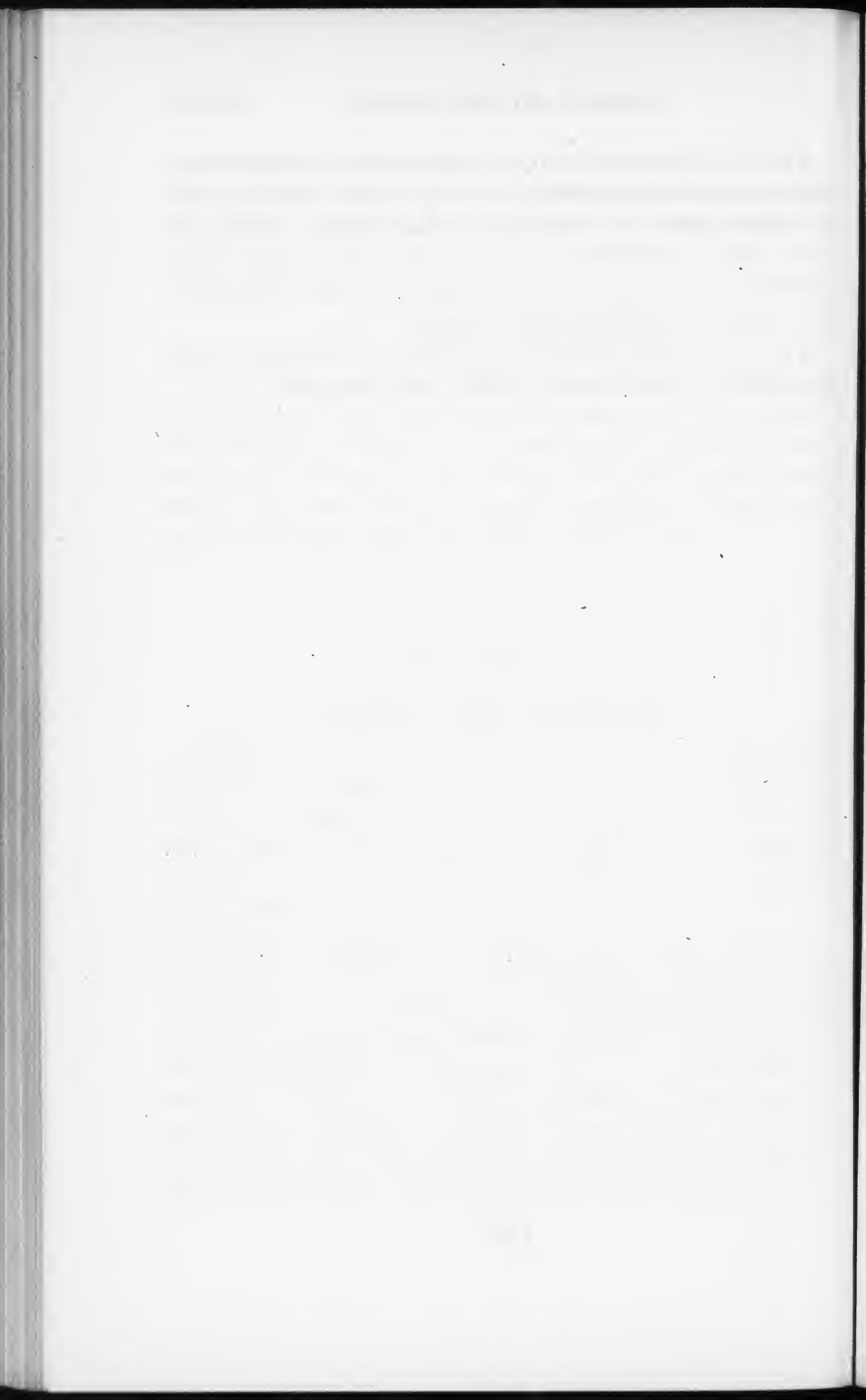
### **LADIES' AID SOCIETIES**

¶ 378, § 1. For the promotion of the social and financial interests of the Churches, Ladies' Aid Societies, or Societies of similar designation and purpose, may be organized in the local Charge, which Societies shall be under the control of the Quarterly Conference.

§ 2. The President of a Ladies' Aid Society shall be elected by the Society and confirmed by the Quarterly Conference: If a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, she shall then become a Member of the Quarterly Conference if approved by it for membership therein. It shall be her duty to present to the fourth Quarterly Conference a report of her Society, together with such other information as the Quarterly Conference may require and she may be able to give.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendents when holding District or Quarterly Conferences to inquire into the condition of the Ladies' Aid Societies, and to ascertain if they are conducting their affairs in harmony with the purpose and Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

§ 4. It shall be the duty of Pastors to organize and maintain, if practicable, Ladies' Aid Societies.



**PART VII**  
**INSTITUTIONS, BOARDS, AND**  
**SOCIETIES**

- I. THE BOOK CONCERN
- II. COUNCIL OF BOARDS OF BENEVOLENCE
- III. BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
- IV. WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY
- V. BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION
- VI. WOMAN'S HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY
- VII. BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR NEGROES
- VIII. BOARD OF EDUCATION
- IX. BOARD OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS
- X. BOARD OF CONFERENCE CLAIMANTS
- XI. BOARD OF THE EPWORTH LEAGUE
- XII. AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY
- XIII. BOARD OF TEMPERANCE, PROHIBITION, AND PUBLIC MORALS
- XIV. GENERAL DEACONESS BOARD
- XV. BOARD OF HOSPITALS AND HOMES
- XVI. CHARTERED FUND

## CHAPTER I

### THE BOOK CONCERN

#### I. The Methodist Book Concern

¶ 379, § 1. The Methodist Book Concern comprises the publishing interests of the Methodist Episcopal Church—as set forth in the Discipline and in its articles of incorporation, under the corporate name, The Methodist Book Concern—and consists of the publishing houses located in New York City and in Cincinnati, Ohio, respectively; the Depositories connected therewith; the books, periodicals, and publications of the Church; and such other property, equipment, and appliances for their production, sale, and distribution, as the General Conference or the Book Committee from time to time may authorize and direct.

§ 2. The objects and purposes for which The Methodist Book Concern was established and is carried on are: the promotion of Christian education; the dissemination of moral and religious literature; the spread of Christianity by the publication, sale, and distribution of moral and religious literature; the transaction of such other business as is properly connected with book-publishing, book-making, and book-selling; the produce of the same to be applied for the benefit of the Traveling, Supernumerary, and Retired Preachers, their wives, widows, and children, in accordance with the Constitution and Discipline of the Church.

## II. Book Committee

¶ 380, § 1. Beginning with A. D. 1900, the General Conference shall elect quadrennially a Book Committee, consisting of one member from each of the General Conference Districts into which the Annual Conferences are distributed, and ten members constituting the Local Committees as defined in § 2 hereof. Those elected from the Districts designated by odd numbers shall be elected for a term of eight years, and those from the Districts designated by even numbers for a term of four years; and hereafter each General Conference shall elect for a term of eight years one member for each District, who shall be nominated by the delegations representing that District, to take the place of the member whose term is then expiring, or to fill any vacancy in the Committee for the unexpired term; provided, that in any such case the person elected to fill such vacancy in a General Conference District membership shall be from the Annual Conference to which the retiring member belonged, or within the bounds of which he resided. Any vacancy occurring in the District membership of the Book Committee, by a member's removal from the District from which he was elected, or by any cause whatsoever, shall be filled by the Book Committee until the next session of the General Conference.

§ 2. In 1912 the General Conference shall elect five members of the Book Committee from New York City and the territory contiguous thereto, two of whom shall serve for four years and three for eight years; and shall elect five members from Cincinnati, Ohio, and the territory contiguous thereto, three of

whom shall serve for four years, and two for eight years. Thereafter each General Conference shall elect for eight years members from the respective territories to take the place of those whose terms are then expiring, and shall fill for the unexpired term any vacancy by the election of a member from the territory in which such vacancy occurs. The Standing Committee on Book Concern shall nominate the members of the Local Committees. The members provided for by this section shall be known as the Local Committee at New York and at Cincinnati respectively, and at least two members of each Local Committee shall be ministers. Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the Local Committee shall be filled by the Book Committee until the next session of the General Conference.

¶ 381, § 1. The Book Committee shall have general supervision and direction of the publishing interests. The Committee shall meet immediately after the adjournment of the General Conference and organize by the election of a chairman, a secretary, and such other officers as may be required by the laws of the States under which its articles of incorporation are obtained. It may also appoint such other officers and committees and adopt such rules and regulations for the transaction of its affairs as it may deem necessary. The officers shall perform such duties as are usually performed by similar officers.

§ 2. The annual meeting of the Book Committee shall be held on the third Wednesday in April, or at such other time as the Book Committee may determine, and special meetings may be held at such times and places as the Committee may appoint or

at the call of the chairman, or upon the written request of ten members of the Committee. At all meetings of the Book Committee a majority of the members shall constitute a quorum.

¶ 382, § 1. The Book Committee shall keep a correct record of its proceedings and shall examine carefully into the condition of the affairs of the Book Concern and make report thereof to the Annual Conferences and the General Conference.

§ 2. The Methodist Book Concern shall not buy, sell, nor exchange any real estate except by order of the General Conference, or between the sessions of the General Conference except by a three-fourths vote of all the members of the Book Committee; nor shall the Book Committee authorize any new buildings or make any improvements, alterations, or repairs to existing buildings to cost in excess of \$50,000, except by order of the General Conference or between the sessions of the General Conference except by a three-fourths vote of all the members of the Book Committee. In either case such vote to be taken by a regular or called meeting of the Committee, and if at a called meeting the purpose of the meeting having been stated in the call.

The erection of a new building or the improvements, alterations, or repairs of an existing building involving an expenditure of \$10,000, and not more than \$50,000, may only be authorized by the vote of the majority of each of the Local Committees acting in joint session. Expenditure for such purposes of less than \$10,000 may be authorized by the respective Local Committees. These provisions shall not prevent the making of investments on mortgage security

or the protection of the same or the collection of claims and adjustments.

§ 3. The Book Committee shall have full power to discontinue any depository, periodical or publication when, in its judgment, the interests of the Church or Book Concern demand it; but said action shall not be taken except by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Committee, and after due notice of such contemplated action shall have been given to the Publishing Agents and Editors concerned. The Book Committee shall have power to order expenses curtailed in any of the departments of the Book Concern, and when such action as above specified shall have been taken, the Publishing Agents shall proceed at once to carry out the instructions of the Committee. The Book Committee shall also attend to all matters referred to it for action or counsel by the Publishing Agents or Editors.

§ 4. The Book Committee shall annually fix the salaries of the Bishops, Publishing Agents, and all official Editors elected by the General Conference or the Book Committee, not otherwise provided for, and shall determine the amount and the distribution of the Correspondence Fund allowed to the official periodicals.

§ 5. In case a vacancy occur in either the publishing, editorial, or other official departments of the Book Concern authorized by the General Conference, it shall be the duty of the Book Committee, two at least of the General Superintendents being present, and a majority of those present concurring, to provide, as soon as possible, for such vacancy until the session of the next General Conference.

¶ 383. The Book Committee shall elect quadren-

nially a Book Editor, whose duties are hereinafter defined. ¶ 395.

¶ 384, § 1. At the beginning of each quadrennium the Book Committee shall estimate the amount of money necessary to meet the expense of the next General Conference, and of the Judicial Conferences, General Conference Commissions, and such other expenses as the General Conference may have authorized to be paid from this fund. An equitable apportionment of the total amount estimated as necessary for the General Conference expenses shall be sent to the District Superintendents in each Annual Conference. The District Superintendents, within sixty days after the adjournment of their respective Annual Conferences in the first year of the quadrennium, shall make an equitable apportionment of the amount asked from their Districts for the quadrennium, and send a copy of this apportionment to the Charges of the District and to the Treasurer of the General Conference expense fund. Should any District Superintendent fail to make such an apportionment within the time named above, the Treasurer of the General Conference Expense Fund is authorized to make the apportionment on the basis ordered by the Book Committee. One third of the full amount of the apportionment shall be raised in each of the three Conference years preceding the session of the General Conference and shall be promptly remitted to the Treasurer of the General Conference Expense Fund. The Treasurer of the General Conference Expense Fund shall be elected quadrennially by the Book Committee. His compensation shall be fixed by the Book Committee and he shall report to and be amenable to that Committee. He shall present a final detailed

statement of the receipts and expenditures of this fund at each General Conference.

§ 2. Any part of the apportionment unpaid at the close of the Annual Conference session preceding the General Conference shall be reapportioned and raised within the coming Conference year. Should there remain any deficiency at the close of the first Annual Conference session succeeding the General Conference, it shall be added to the regular apportionment for the next year, and shall be collected with it.

§ 3. All sums collected by the Pastor for General Conference Expense Fund shall be paid promptly to the Treasurer of the General Conference Expense Fund, who shall give a voucher for the same.

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### III. Local Committees

¶ 385. The members of the Local Committees of the Book Committee chosen from the territory contiguous to New York and Cincinnati, respectively, shall assemble as soon after their election as practicable and organize separately by the election of a Chairman and a Secretary for each of said Local Committees; and, as directed by the Book Committee, shall have the general supervision and direction of the affairs of the Publishing Houses and Depositories under their immediate charge; and during the intervals of the Book Committee meetings the Local Committees shall also perform such duties as commonly belong to the Executive Committee of a Board of Trustees. A majority of the members of each Local Committee shall constitute a quorum. The duties of the Chairman of the Book Committee, in case of his

absence or disability, may be performed by the Chairman of either of the Local Committees.

¶ 386. The Local Committees respectively shall meet monthly, to examine into the affairs under their charge, and shall keep correct records of their proceedings, and when requested they shall submit the records either to the Book Committee or to the Local Committees in joint session. At the beginning of the quadrennium each Local Committee shall value all the real estate under its supervision; which value shall be entered in the records and shall not be changed during the quadrennium, except as property may be purchased, improved, sold, or destroyed.

¶ 387, § 1. The Local Committees shall meet in Joint Session semiannually at such time and place as they may determine, or at the call of the Chairman of the Book Committee, or at the written request of three members of each of the Local Committees; and when in Joint Session they shall act as a Joint Executive Committee. The chairman of the Book Committee shall be *ex-officio* Chairman, and shall preside at the Joint Sessions of the Local Committees; and a majority of the members of each of the Local Committees shall be required for a quorum.

§ 2. The Local Committees, acting jointly, shall have power to suspend a Publishing Agent or an Editor for cause to them sufficient and in such case a time and place of hearing shall be fixed at as early a date as practicable for the investigation of the official conduct of said Publishing Agent or Editor. Due notice in writing of the time and place of hearing and of the nature of the charges shall be given by the Chairman of the Book Committee to such Publishing Agent or Editor, and also to the Bishops through

their Secretary. The Bishops thereupon shall elect one of their number to be present and preside at the investigation.

§ 3. This investigation shall be before the members of the Book Committee elected from the General Conference Districts, who by a two-thirds vote may remove from office said Publishing Agent or Editor, between the sessions of the General Conference.

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#### IV. Publishing Agents

¶ 388, § 1. The General Conference shall elect quadrennially three Publishing Agents, who, under the supervision and direction of the Book Committee, shall have authority, as the administrative officers of the Book Concern, to regulate the production and distribution of the publications and to conduct the affairs of The Methodist Book Concern. They shall, subject to the approval of the Local Committees acting jointly, determine the classes of business to be carried on by the several publishing houses.

§ 2. At the meeting for organization the Book Committee shall designate one of the Publishing Agents, who shall have immediate charge and administration of the publishing interests at New York City, one with like duties at Cincinnati, and one with like duties at Chicago.

¶ 389, § 1. It shall be the duty of the Publishing Agents to publish, purchase, sell, and distribute such books, tracts, periodicals, and publications as are authorized by the General Conference or the Book Committee.

§ 2. Tracts supplied to the different societies of the Church by order of the Book Committee shall be charged at the actual cost of publication.

¶ 390, § 1. The Publishing Agents shall keep the accounts of the Book Concern by such uniform system as shall be authorized by the Book Committee.

§ 2. The Publishing Agents shall annually take a complete inventory, including therein all assets of whatever nature belonging to the respective departments under their charge, and by a uniform system accurately determine their cash value; and shall include the real estate at the valuation made by the Local Committees at the beginning of each quadrennium, noting any changes made therein and the reasons therefor. The annual account shall be submitted to the Book Committee at its first session, and shall contain a full and detailed statement of all assets and liabilities, income and disbursements in the respective departments of the Book Concern.

§ 3. The Publishing Agents shall deliver to their successors in office such statements of assets and liabilities as shall be ordered, approved and certified by the Book Committee.

¶ 391, § 1. The Publishing Agents shall keep a separate account with the several departments of the Book Concern under their charge, including real estate, and in their reports of the same to the Book Committee, to the Annual Conferences, and to the General Conference shall set forth the amount of sales, receipts, and expenditures for books and periodicals, including sales by the Depositories under their management.

§ 2. The Publishing Agents shall furnish to the Local Committee a full and satisfactory statement of the transactions of each month, and when the Local Committees require shall present for examination proper vouchers for all payments made by them

during the period specified, and shall afford said Local Committees every possible means and facility for a full and intelligent understanding of the affairs of the several departments under their care.

¶ 392, § 1. The Publishing Agents shall send to the Annual Conferences a statement of the accounts due the Book Concern from the several Members thereof and early in the session the Conference shall appoint a Committee on Periodicals, Publications, and Collections, composed of one Pastor for each Superintendent's District, which Committee shall assist in the collection of the accounts forwarded, and pay all collections to the Publishing Agent or his representative, if present; and if not present, the Committee shall make prompt and accurate return for the same to the Publishing House from which they were received, and shall receive a voucher for the same. This Committee shall make a careful canvass of the preachers in each of the Districts and ascertain what periodicals are supplied by the Book Concern, and what publications issued by other societies in the Church are taken, reporting the names and number of these publications in open Conference; and shall also send a copy of said report to the Publishing Agent by whom the accounts are issued. ¶ 86.

§ 2. Every District Superintendent and Pastor, when requested by the Publishing Agents, shall do all in his power to collect debts due the Book Concern; and should any Minister or member of our Church who is indebted to the Book Concern refuse or neglect to make payment, or to effect a just settlement of his account, he shall be reported and dealt with in the same manner as in other cases of debt or disputed accounts.

¶ 393. The produce of the Book Concern, after the Book Committee has determined and retained a sufficient amount with which to carry on its affairs, shall be regularly applied to the benefit of the Traveling, Supernumerary, and Retired Preachers, their wives, widows, and children. The division of the produce of the Book Concern available for distribution according to this paragraph shall be made equitably to the Annual Conferences upon the basis of the ratio of the total annuity claims of the several Annual Conferences to the total annuity claims of the entire Church, as shown in the reports made by the Conference Stewards to the Board of Conference Claimants, such reports to be carefully checked by the Corresponding Secretary and properly certified to the Book Committee which shall have charge of the distribution. In making this distribution the Publishing Agents shall forward to each Annual Conference, during its session, a statement showing the amount due the Conference, together with a draft for the same.

NOTE.—For the division and distribution of the produce of the Book Concern to the Foreign Conferences, see Appendix, ¶ 586.

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## V. Depositories

¶ 394, § 1. There shall be Depositories for the sale and distribution of the books and publications of The Methodist Book Concern at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Boston, Massachusetts; and Detroit, Michigan, which shall be in charge of The Methodist Book Concern in New York; and Depositories at Chicago, Illinois; Kansas City, Missouri; and San Francisco, California, which shall be in charge of The Methodist

Book Concern in Cincinnati; also Depositories at such other places as the General Conference may determine from time to time. Each Depository shall be supplied with a full stock of the books of the General Catalogue, Sunday School Books, Sunday School Supplies, and Tracts, to be sold for the Publishing House with which the Depository is connected.

§ 2. After the expenses incident to the transportation, management, and sale of Books and publications at the Depositories shall have been paid out of the sales, the net proceeds for the same shall be forwarded to the Publishing House by which they were supplied; to which Publishing House full statements of the amounts of sales and expenses shall be made at the dates fixed, cash sales being distinguished from those on credit. Statements of the amount of stock shall also be made and sent to the Publishing House, when required.

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## VI. Editors

¶ 395. The Book Editor shall have editorial supervision of all manuscripts and printed matter intended for publication in book form, or intended to bear the imprint of The Methodist Book Concern, as hereinbefore provided. The Book Editor shall also be the editor of the tracts published by the Book Concern.

¶ 396. There shall be elected quadrennially by ballot by the General Conference an Editor for each of the following periodicals: *The Methodist Review*, *The Christian Advocate*, the *Southwestern Christian Advocate*, *Der Christliche Apologete*, *Haus und Herd*, the *Epworth Herald*, and also an Editor of Sunday School Literature. Nominations of Editors for the

foregoing publications shall be sent to the Secretary's desk in writing.

¶ 397, § 1. The General Conference, on nomination by the several Districts as herein provided, shall elect the Editors of the following periodicals: The *Western Christian Advocate*, the *Northwestern Christian Advocate*, the *Central Christian Advocate*, the *Pacific Christian Advocate*, the *California Christian Advocate*, and the *Methodist Advocate-Journal*.

§ 2. For the purpose of making nominations of Editors for these Advocates, the Annual Conferences naturally tributary to the several publications shall be divided into nominating districts as follows:

*Western Christian Advocate*.—West Ohio, Ohio, Indiana, North Indiana, Northwest Indiana, and Kentucky Conferences.

§ 3. *Northwestern Christian Advocate*.—Rock River, Illinois, Central Illinois, Michigan, Detroit, Wisconsin, West Wisconsin, Minnesota, Northern Minnesota, Dakota, North Dakota, Upper Iowa, Des Moines, Iowa, and Northwest Iowa Conferences.

§ 4. *Central Christian Advocate*.—Southern Illinois, Saint Louis, Missouri, Kansas, Northwest Kansas, Southwest Kansas, Nebraska, Northwest Nebraska, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Colorado Conferences.

§ 5. *Pacific Christian Advocate*.—Columbia River, Oregon, Puget Sound, Idaho, Montana, and North Montana Conferences.

§ 6. *California Christian Advocate*.—California and Southern California Conferences.

§ 7. *Methodist Advocate-Journal*.—Holston, Alabama, Blue Ridge-Atlantic, Central Tennessee, Georgia, Saint Johns River, and Gulf Conferences.

§ 8. The General Conference delegates from each of

the nominating districts above described shall place in nomination before the General Conference one or more persons for Editor of the Advocate related to such district—the number thus nominated to be governed by the desire of those representing such districts and present at a regular meeting thereof to be called by the Secretary of the General Conference. The General Conference shall then elect by ballot the Editor of each Advocate. While the privilege of nomination shall reside in these several districts, the rights of any member of the General Conference to vote for whomsoever he pleases as Editor of any one of these publications shall not be abridged.

§ 9. In the above distribution of the Annual Conferences, the former North Ohio portion of the North-East Ohio Conference shall be considered as common patronizing territory for the *Pittsburgh* and the *Western Christian Advocates*; and the Northwest Indiana Conference, as common patronizing territory for the *Western* and the *Northwestern Christian Advocates*.

¶ 398. The Editor of the *Pittsburgh Christian Advocate* shall be elected quadrennially by ballot by the General Conference, on nomination of the delegates of the patronizing Conference.

¶ 399. The Book Committee may elect such Editors of publications conducted by The Methodist Book Concern as have not been elected by the General Conference.

¶ 400. The Editor of *Haus und Herd* shall also be Editor of German Sunday School books, periodicals, and tracts.

¶ 401. The Editors shall perform such duties as properly belong to the editorial office, and in such manner as the interests of the Church may require,

the General Conference may authorize, or the Book Committee in its business relations to the Editors may direct; and they shall give their undivided attention to these duties.

¶ 402. There shall be a Publishing Committee for the *Pittsburgh Christian Advocate*, elected by the General Conference, consisting of three members from the Pittsburgh Conference, three from the Erie Conference, three from the North-East Ohio Conference, and three from the West Virginia Conference. Such Publishing Committee shall fix the salary of the Editor, keep an account of the receipts and expenditures of the paper, and report annually its financial condition to the patronizing Conferences. A copy of said report shall be sent also to the Publishing Agent at New York, and any balance remaining after defraying current expenses shall be subject to the order of said Publishing Agent.

¶ 403. The Annual and District Conferences are earnestly requested not to establish or encourage the establishing of Conference or local Church papers, except such as are approved and authorized by the General Conference or the Book Committee; and where such papers exist the Conferences are requested to discontinue the same, when it can be done consistently with existing obligations. They are also requested to discourage the display or sale of other than our own publications at the sessions of the Annual Conferences.

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## VII. Circulation of Religious Tracts

¶ 404. It is recommended to our people everywhere to form Tract Societies for the distribution of tracts and religious literature.

¶ 405. It shall be the duty of each District Superintendent to bring the subject of tract distribution before the fourth Quarterly Conference in each Charge within his District; and said Conference shall appoint a Committee, of which the Pastor shall be Chairman, whose duty it shall be to devise and execute plans for local tract distribution.

¶ 406. No books shall hereafter be sold on commission, either from New York, Cincinnati, or any Depository or establishment under direction of the Book Concern; provided, however, that this shall not prohibit the Publishing Agents from opening up limited "On Sale" accounts with our Ministers, the same to be governed by the general rules of credit of the Book Concern.

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## CHAPTER II

### COUNCIL OF BOARDS OF BENEVOLENCE

¶ 407, § 1. There shall be a Council of Boards of Benevolence, composed as follows: Fifteen effective Bishops, resident in the United States, to be appointed by the Board of Bishops; fifteen members of the Board of Foreign Missions; fifteen members of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension; seven members of the Board of Education for Negroes; nine members of the Board of Sunday Schools; nine members of the Board of Education; seven members of the Board of Conference Claimants; two members of the Board of Temperance, Prohibition and Public Morals; two members of the General Deaconess Board; two members of the Board of Epworth

## ¶ 408 COUNCIL OF BOARDS OF BENEVOLENCE

League; two members of the Board of Hospitals and Homes; one ministerial and one lay representative of each episcopal area in the United States, said representative to be nominated by the General Conference delegates of the respective areas, and elected by the General Conference. The representatives from each Constituent Board shall be elected by the Board and shall include the Corresponding Secretary of said Board.

§ 2. The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society and the Woman's Home Missionary Society shall each be entitled to two advisory members.

§ 3. Other Boards of the Church shall have such representation in the Council as the General Conference shall order. The Council shall be elected for a quadrennium.

§ 4. The aim and purpose of the Council of Boards of Benevolence shall be so to correlate the several connectional Boards and Societies as to secure:

(a) One harmonious and unified world program of missionary, educational, and benevolent activities.

(b) One unified financial policy and appeal.

(c) The elimination of duplication of all activities.

(d) A larger measure of economy and efficiency.

¶ 408, § 1. The officers of the Council of Boards of Benevolence shall be a President, two Vice-Presidents, and a Recording Secretary and a Treasurer, who shall be elected by the Council, and their duties shall be limited to such as commonly pertain to the offices which they respectively hold.

§ 2. There shall be an Executive Committee in such number and manner as the Council of Boards of Benevolence shall determine, provided that each constituent Board shall have at least one member on the

**Executive Committee.** It shall represent the Council and exercise its powers in the interim of meetings of the Council, but shall not take action contrary to or in conflict with any action or policy of the Council of Boards of Benevolence.

§ 3. The Council of Boards of Benevolence shall meet annually at such time and place as it may determine. Special meetings may be called by the Executive Committee, and shall be called by the Executive Committee when one fourth of the members of the Council shall so request.

§ 4. At its annual meeting, the Council of Boards of Benevolence shall:

1. Receive from each of the Constituent Boards and from the American Bible Society a report of its activities for the past year, together with a statement of its needs and askings for the ensuing year.

2. Coordinate, correlate, and unify the plans and activities of the several constituent Boards so that a unified policy may be established for the connectional activities of the Church.

3. Determine the askings of the several constituent Boards.

4. Determine the amount to be apportioned to the Church for the Council and constituent Boards and the American Bible Society.

5. Review and determine the administrative budget of each constituent Board and of the Council.

6. Appoint a Committee on Conservation and Advance, said committee to be composed of two Bishops, one representative from each episcopal area in the United States, and two representatives of each constituent Board, one of whom shall be a corresponding secretary, all to be elected by the Council.

## ¶ 409 COUNCIL OF BOARDS OF BENEVOLENCE

¶ 409, § 1. It shall be the duty of the Committee of Conservation and Advance, subject to the general supervision and control of the Council of Boards of Benevolence,

1. To apportion the total amount approved by the Council of Boards of Benevolence, for the support of the Council and Constituent Boards and the American Bible Society to the Annual Conferences, Mission Conferences, Missions, Districts, and Charges. The apportionments to the Charges in each District shall be sent to the District Superintendents, who shall transmit the same to the Pastors.

2. In cooperation with the Constituent Boards and Societies, to inform the Church and the public concerning all phases of missionary, educational, benevolent and philanthropic activities of the Church.

3. To promote and direct all campaigns for funds for the support of the activities of the Constituent Boards, in cooperation with the other constituted authorities of the Church.

4. To carry out the plans of the Council of Boards of Benevolence, for the promotion and practice of the principles of Christian Stewardship, and for the enlistment of the youth of the Church for Christian Life Service.

5. The Committee shall elect annually a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and a Recording Secretary, whose duties shall be such as commonly pertain to the offices which they respectively hold. The Committee shall also elect a Corresponding Secretary and a Treasurer, who shall be *ex officio* members of the Committee and the Council. The Corresponding Secretary shall be the general executive officer of the Committee.

The Treasurer shall receive all funds for the Council and the Constituent Boards and the American Bible Society, and he shall distribute the same, monthly, *pro rata* according to the asking approved by the Council of Boards of Benevolence, except designated gifts.

§ 2. In each Episcopal Area where an Area Secretary is desired by the Resident Bishop and the Committee on Conservation and Advance, an Area Secretary may be appointed by the Bishop of the Area on the nomination of the Committee of Conservation and Advance.

§ 3. Vacancies occurring in the Committee in the interim of meetings of the Council of Boards of Benevolence shall be filled by the Committee from the same area or Board in which the vacancy occurs.

¶ 410, § 1. The Council of Boards of Benevolence shall prepare and present to the General Conference quadrennially a report of its activities. It shall also submit to the General Conference a program of benevolent activities for the quadrennium next succeeding.

§ 2. Vacancies occurring in the interim of meetings of the Constituent Boards or the General Conference shall be filled by the Council of Boards of Benevolence from the Area or Boards in which vacancies occur.

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## CHAPTER III

### BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

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#### I. Incorporation

¶ 411, § 1. There shall be a Board of Foreign Missions, duly incorporated according to law, and

having its office in New York City; said Board of Foreign Missions shall have committed to it the general supervision of all work in the foreign fields, and shall be subject to such rules and regulations as the General Conference from time to time may prescribe.

§ 2. Other denominational agencies shall undertake work in foreign lands only in cooperation with this board.

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## II. Constitution

¶ 412. ARTICLE I.—*Name and Object.* The name of this organization shall be the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Its objects are religious, philanthropic, and educational, designed to diffuse more generally the blessings of Christianity, by the promotion and support of all phases of Church work and missionary activity in foreign countries; and also in such other places subject to the sovereignty of the United States, but not on the continent of North America or the islands adjacent thereto, as may be committed to the care of such organization by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, under such rules and regulations as said General Conference may from time to time prescribe.

¶ 413. ARTICLE II.—*Cooperating Members, Life Members, Honorary Members, and Patrons.*

§ 1. Every member who subscribes to the pledge and pays the fee fixed by the Board of Managers shall become a Cooperating Member. Any member contributing \$20 at one time shall become a Life Member. Any member contributing \$200 at one time shall be

NOTE.—For Charter By-Laws, etc., see Annual Report of the Board of Foreign Missions.

come an Honorary Life Member. Any member contributing \$500 at one time shall become an Honorary Manager for life. Any member contributing \$1,000 at one time shall become a Patron for life.

§ 2. Honorary Managers not to exceed twenty in number may be elected by the General Conference, and, in case of vacancies, may be elected by the Board of Managers during the interval between the sessions of the General Conference, said Honorary Managers being entitled to speak in the meetings of the Board of Managers, but not to vote.

¶ 414. ARTICLE III.—*Board of Managers.* § 1. The management and disposition of the affairs and property of the Board of Foreign Missions, the making of appropriations and the administration of appropriations, and all other funds shall be vested in a Board of Managers. This Board shall determine what fields shall be occupied as Foreign Missions and the amount necessary for the support of each, and shall make appropriations for the same, including an emergency fund of \$50,000, provided that the Board of Managers shall not appropriate for a given year, including the emergency appropriation of \$50,000, more than the total income for the preceding year.

§ 2. The Board of Managers shall consist of all the effective General Superintendents who shall be *ex officio* members of said Board, and thirty-two traveling Ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church and thirty-two Laymen of the Methodist Episcopal Church elected by the General Conference upon nomination of the Bishops. In constituting the Board of Managers, the Bishops shall nominate one representative from each General Conference District, preserving as nearly as may be an equality in the num-

ber of Ministers and Laymen chosen from the Districts.

§ 3. The Board of Managers shall meet annually at such time and place as the Executive Committee shall determine. Due notice of such time and place shall be given to each member.

§ 4. The Board of Managers shall elect an Executive Committee consisting of not less than thirty members. This Committee shall meet monthly at the headquarters of the Board of Foreign Missions in New York City, unless otherwise ordered by the Board. Traveling expenses in connection with the monthly meeting of the Executive Committee shall not be paid by the Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions, but traveling expenses in connection with the annual meeting shall be paid.

§ 5. Vacancies in the Board of Managers shall be filled as the Charter provides. The Board shall have authority to make By-Laws, not inconsistent with this Constitution or the Charter; to print books, periodicals, and tracts for Foreign Missions; to elect a President, Vice-President, a Treasurer, and such Assistants as may be necessary, a Recording Secretary, and such Assistant and other Secretaries as may be necessary; to fill vacancies that may occur among the officers elected by the Board; to organize departments for the administration of the work of the Board; to invite the cooperation of other agencies, where such cooperation will increase the efficiency of the work in the foreign field. It shall present a statement of its transactions and funds to the Church in its annual report, and shall lay before the General Conference a report of its transactions for the preceding four years, and the state of its funds.

§ 6. The Board of Foreign Missions shall have power to suspend a Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, or any elected officer of the Board of Managers, for cause to it sufficient; and a time and place shall be fixed by the Board of Managers, at as early a day as practicable, for the investigation of the official conduct of the person against whom complaint shall have been made. Due notice shall be given by the Board to the Bishops, who shall select one of their number to preside at the investigation, which shall be before a Committee of twelve persons, six Ministers and six Laymen, none of whom shall be members of the Board of Managers. Said committee shall be appointed by the Bishop selected to preside at the investigation. Two thirds of said committee shall have power of removal from office, in the interval of General Conference, of the official against whom complaint has been made.

§ 7. In case a vacancy shall occur in the office of the Corresponding Secretary, the Bishops shall have power to fill the vacancy if the Board of Managers shall so request, and until they do so the Board of Managers shall provide for the duties of the office.

§ 8. Thirteen members present at any meeting of the Board of Managers shall be a quorum.

§ 9. The Board shall have authority to solicit and receive funds for the publication and distribution of tracts.

¶ 415. ARTICLE IV.—*Corresponding Secretaries.*

§ 1. There may be two Corresponding Secretaries, having coordinate power, who shall be the executive officers of the Board of Foreign Missions, the Secretary or Secretaries shall be elected by the General Conference quadrennially.

§ 2. They shall be subject to the direction of the Board of Managers, and their salaries, which shall be fixed by the Board of Managers, shall be paid out of the treasury. They shall be employed exclusively in conducting the correspondence of the Board, in furnishing the Church with missionary intelligence, in supervising the foreign missionary work of the Church, and, by correspondence, traveling, and otherwise shall promote the general interests of the cause.

¶ 416. ARTICLE V.—*Election of Officers.* The officers to be elected by the Board shall be chosen and hold their office for the term of one year, or until their successors shall be elected; or, if a vacancy should occur during the year by death, resignation, or otherwise, it may be filled at any regular meeting of the Board. The first election of each quadrennium shall be held at the regular meeting of the Board next succeeding the General Conference.

¶ 417. ARTICLE VI.—*Presiding Officer.* At all meetings of the Board the President shall preside. But if he should be absent, one of the Vice-Presidents shall take his place. In the absence of the President and of all the Vice-Presidents, a member appointed by the meeting for the purpose shall preside. The minutes of each meeting shall be signed by the Chairman of the meeting at which the same are read and approved and by the Recording Secretary.

¶ 418. ARTICLE VII.—*Support of Retired and Other Missionaries.* § 1. The Board may provide for the support of Retired Missionaries, and of the widows and orphans of Missionaries who may not be provided for by their Annual Conferences respectively; provided they shall not receive more than is usually

allowed Retired Ministers, their widows and orphans in home Conferences.

§ 2. No one shall be acknowledged as a Missionary, or receive support as such from the funds of the Board of Foreign Missions, who has not been approved by the Board of Managers and been assigned to some definite field, except as above provided. Ministerial Missionaries shall be constituted by the joint action of a General Superintendent and the Board. Lay Missionaries shall be appointed by the Board of Managers.

¶ 419. ARTICLE VIII.—*Amendments.* This Constitution shall be subject to amendment or alteration only by the General Conference.

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### III. Foreign Missionary Society

¶ 420. Auxiliary to the Board of Foreign Missions shall be organized the Foreign Missionary Society, of which all members of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall be members.

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### IV. Administration of Foreign Missions

¶ 421, § 1. When a Mission is established in a foreign country, outside of an Annual Conference, the Bishop having Episcopal supervision of the same may appoint a member of the Mission as Superintendent who may also be a District Superintendent. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent, in the absence of a Bishop, to preside in the Annual Meeting of the Mission and to arrange the work and take general supervision of the entire Mission. Also, from time to time,

he shall represent the state of the Mission and its needs to the Bishop in charge and to the Corresponding Secretaries.

§ 2. The Bishop having Episcopal supervision of a Mission shall designate annually a time at which all the members of the Mission and also the native Preachers employed as supplies or helpers in the Mission shall come together for the purpose of holding an Annual Meeting, said meeting having, in all ecclesiastical matters, the duties and powers of a District Conference; and transacting such other business as may be assigned to it by the Board or grow out of the local interests of the work. In the absence of a Bishop or the Superintendent, the annual meeting shall choose its presiding officer in the manner provided for District Conferences.

§ 3. When a Mission in a foreign country is organized into a Mission Conference or an Annual Conference the administration of the Board of Foreign Missions shall not be disturbed thereby, but shall be continued as in other Foreign Missions.

¶ 422, § 1. The Missionaries in Japan while retaining their membership in their home Annual Conferences and without impairing their relationship to the Board of Foreign Missions and the appointing authority of the Methodist Episcopal Church, shall, while in service as Missionaries in Japan, be free to accept the rights and privileges in the Annual Conferences of the Japan Methodist Church as offered to them by that Church.

§ 2. The Missionaries of the Board of Foreign Missions are authorized to unite the two existing Mission Councils in Japan into one Mission Council for all our work among the Japanese, to be known

as the Japan Mission Council of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

§ 3. The Japan Mission Council of the Methodist Episcopal Church is authorized to elect and send one of its members to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church as its representative—said representative to be accorded the privilege of sitting with the Committees of the General Conference with the right to speak when questions relating to our work in Japan are being discussed.

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#### V. Membership of Lay Male Missionaries in Annual Conferences

¶ 423. Lay male Missionaries of the Board of Foreign Missions may be invited to sit as associate members of their respective bodies, and be permitted the privileges of the floor, and the right to vote on all questions not ministerial or constitutional and shall be eligible for election on the Mission or Conference Finance and other Committees.

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#### VI. Annual Conference Board

¶ 424, § 1. It shall be the duty of each Annual Conference to organize within its bounds an Annual Conference Board of Foreign Missions. This Annual Conference Board shall consist of the District Superintendents, District Missionary Secretaries, and District Epworth League Presidents, *ex officio*, and one Sunday School Superintendent, and one lay member from each District, to be elected by the Annual Conference on the nomination of the District Superin-

tendents. The Annual Conference shall elect the officers of the said Board from among its members, on the nomination of the District Superintendents.

§ 2. The said Board shall present an annual Report to the Annual Conference through its President; and shall have charge of the Annual Conference anniversary of the Board of Foreign Missions, to which an entire evening shall be given.

§ 3. There shall be at least one meeting of the Annual Conference Board of Foreign Missions each year for the consideration and furtherance of the interests of Foreign Missions within the bounds of the Conference, at which meeting a Secretary or other representative of the Board of Foreign Missions shall be present if possible, and the said Board shall provide for the presentation of the cause of Foreign Missions within the bounds of the Conference and may arrange for conventions.

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## VII. District Board

¶ 425, § 1. There shall be in each District Superintendent's District a District Board of Foreign Missions composed of the members of the Annual Conference Board of Foreign Missions from the District. The District Superintendent shall be the President of said District Board, and the District Missionary Secretary shall be its Secretary. Meetings of the said District Board shall be held at the call of the President; *provided*, that at least one meeting shall be held each year.

§ 2. The said District Board shall aid the Pastors in the presentation of the cause of Foreign Missions within the District, and may arrange for conventions.

**VIII. District Missionary Secretaries**

¶ 426. The presiding Bishop, on nomination of the District Superintendent, shall appoint a Member of the Annual Conference as Missionary Secretary for each District Superintendent's District, who shall serve without salary, and whose duty it shall be to assist the District Superintendent in carrying out the plans in the interests of Foreign Missions on the District; and who, by correspondence and otherwise, shall aid in securing the distribution of missionary literature in every Pastoral Charge, cooperate with the missionary office in New York City in the distinctive work of the Missionary Education Department, and keep the said office informed as to foreign missionary conditions on the District.

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**IX. District Superintendents**

¶ 427, § 1. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendent to see that the provisions of the Discipline concerning Foreign Missions are faithfully executed in his District, and in order thereto he shall inquire at each session of the several Quarterly Conferences, what has been done toward raising funds for the support of Foreign Missions during the preceding quarter, and particularly what has been done in the Sunday Schools for this cause.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendent to see that there be appointed at the fourth Quarterly Conference of each Pastoral Charge a Committee on Foreign Missions, consisting of five or more persons, including one Sunday School Superintendent and one Epworth League President, of which Com-

mittee the Pastor shall be Chairman. Its duty shall be to aid the Pastor in disseminating missionary information, planning for the Annual Foreign Missionary Day, and securing a thorough canvass of the members of the Churches and Congregations in the interest of Foreign Missions.

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### X. Pastors and Churches

¶ 428, § 1. The support of Foreign Missions is committed to Pastors, Congregations, Sunday Schools, and Epworth Leagues.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the Pastor, aided by the Committee on Foreign Missions, to provide for the diffusion of missionary information among the members of his Church, Congregation, Sunday School, and Epworth League.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the Pastor, aided by the Committee on Foreign Missions, to institute a monthly missionary prayer meeting or missionary address in his Pastoral Charge, for the purpose of imploring the divine blessing upon Missions throughout the world, and for the Diffusion of missionary intelligence among the people.

§ 4. The Pastor, aided by the Committee on Foreign Missions, shall arrange for an Annual Foreign Missionary Day when the Pastor or some one invited by him shall present the cause of Foreign Missions, at which time it is earnestly recommended that a self-denial or thank offering be taken for the work of the Board of Foreign Missions exclusively.

§ 5. It shall be the duty of the Pastor to see that each Sunday School on his Pastoral Charge is organized into a Missionary Society, and that at least one

Sunday in each month is observed in the interest of Missions and a collection taken. It shall be the duty of the Sunday School Missionary Society, with the consent of the Sunday School Board, to provide brief missionary exercises on the day that is set apart for the monthly missionary collection to be taken, to cause suitable literature to be distributed in the Sunday Schools, and to arrange for occasional missionary concerts. The Sunday School Missionary Society shall include Foreign Missions, Home Missions and Church Extension, and the Board of Sunday Schools.

§ 6. It shall be the duty of the Pastor to organize Mission Study Classes on his Charge where practicable.

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## CHAPTER IV

### WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY

¶ 429, § 1. For the more successful prosecution of the missionary work of the Church among women in foreign lands, there shall be an organization known as the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to be governed and regulated by its Constitution, which may be altered or amended by the General Conference as the necessities of the work may require.

§ 2. This Society shall work in harmony with, and under the supervision of, the authorities of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The appointment, recall, and remuneration of Missionaries, and the designation of their fields of labor, shall be subject to the approval of the Board

## ¶ 430 WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY

of Managers of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and annual appropriations to Mission fields shall be submitted for revision and approval to the Annual Meeting of the Board of Foreign Missions.

§ 3. All Missionaries sent out by this Society shall labor under the direction of the particular Conferences or Missions of the Church in which severally they may be employed. They shall be appointed annually by the President of the Conference or Mission, and shall be subject to the same rules of removal that govern other Missionaries, and they shall be members of the Church and Quarterly Conference and the District Conferences where they reside.

§ 4. All the work of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society in foreign lands shall be under the direction of the Conferences or Missions, and their Committees in exactly the same manner as the work of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church; the Superintendent or District Superintendent having the same relation to the work and the person in charge of it that he would have were it a work in the Pastoral Charge of any Member of the Conference or Mission.

¶ 430, § 1. The funds of the Society shall not be raised by collections or subscriptions taken during any of our regular Church services, nor in any Sunday School, but shall be raised by such methods as the Constitution of the Society shall provide, none of which shall interfere with the contributions of our people and Sunday Schools to the treasury of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and the amount so collected shall be reported by the Pastor to the Annual Conference, and

be entered in a column among the Benevolent Collections in the Annual and General Minutes.

§ 2. The provisions of § 1 of this paragraph shall not be interpreted so as to prevent the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society from taking collections in meetings convened in the interest of their Societies; nor from securing memberships and life memberships in audiences where their work is represented; nor from holding festivals or arranging lectures in the interest of their work.

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## CHAPTER V

### BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION

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#### I. Incorporation

¶ 431. There shall be a Board of Home Missions and Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, incorporated under the laws of the State of Pennsylvania. Its headquarters shall be in the city of Philadelphia. Its purpose shall be to prosecute missionary work in accordance with the terms of its Charter, in the United States and its possessions, not including the Philippine Islands.

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#### II. Board of Home Missions and Church Extension

¶ 432, § 1. The Board of Home Missions and Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall be composed of the Bishop resident at Philadelphia, the corresponding secretary elected by the

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General Conference, who shall be *ex officio* members, twenty-five Ministers and twenty-eight Laymen nominated by the Board of Bishops and elected by the General Conference. There shall be included in the foregoing numbers at least one Minister and one Layman from each General Conference District. All of the other effective Bishops resident in the United States shall be *ex officio* members without a vote. The superintendents of the five departments shall be advisory members. The terms of office shall begin at the adjournment of the General Conference and continue for one quadrennium or until their successors are chosen.

§ 2. The Board may declare vacant the seat of any member for inattention to duties or other sufficient reason, and any vacancy, however caused, shall be filled by the Board of Bishops.

§ 3. The annual meeting and special meetings shall be held as the Board may determine, and special meetings may also be held at the call of the Executive Committee; *provided*, that the Corresponding Secretary may call a special meeting of the Board within three months after any General Conference. At all meetings of the Board twenty-five shall constitute a quorum.

¶ 433. The Board shall consider plans for increasing its receipts and extending its work; shall receive reports from the several Departments; shall determine what total amount shall be appropriated for the work during the ensuing year, provided it shall not exceed the total available net income for the preceding fiscal year; shall determine what amounts

NOTE.—For Charter, Constitution, By-Laws, etc., see Annual Report and other publications of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension.

shall be appropriated for (1) Administration; (2) Publicity; (3) Contingent Fund; (4) Work in Colleges and Universities; (5) The Education of Missionaries for work in foreign languages; (6) The several Departments of Work, subdivisions of these Departments, and Annual Conferences.

¶ 434, § 1. The Board shall constitute an Executive Committee of twenty-five, of which the Corresponding Secretary shall be a member *ex officio*. The Superintendents of Departments shall be advisory members.

§ 2. The Executive Committee shall have authority to administer such appropriations as may be referred to it, and to perform such other duties as the Board may direct.

¶ 435, § 1. The officers of the Board shall be a President, five Vice-Presidents, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, five Superintendents of Departments, and a Treasurer.

§ 2. The President, the Vice-Presidents and the Recording Secretary shall be elected annually by the Board, from among its members.

§ 3. The Corresponding Secretary shall be elected by the General Conference for one quadrennium.

§ 4. The Superintendents of Departments shall be elected by the Board, with the concurrence of the Corresponding Secretary.

§ 5. The Treasurer shall be elected annually by the Board.

§ 6. Vacancies in these offices shall be filled by the Board, except that a vacancy in the office of Corresponding Secretary shall be filled by the Board of Bishops.

§ 7. The duties of the President, the Vice-Presi-

dents, the Recording Secretary and the Treasurer shall be those usually performed by such officers.

§ 8. The Corresponding Secretary shall be the general executive officer of the Board. He shall under the provisions of the Discipline and the direction of the Board promote and supervise the work of the Board to whose authority and control he shall, in all his official conduct, be subject and by whom his salary and that of other salaried officers shall be fixed and paid. He shall communicate to any Bishop assigned to the presidency of a Mission, Mission Conference, or Annual Conference, at the time of his assignment and during his presidency, such information as the office may possess, touching said Mission, Mission Conference or Annual Conference, for the guidance of the Bishop in administration, especially concerning the appropriation of missionary grants to Districts or Charges, the appointments of Superintendents of Missions, and other appointments to Districts or Charges receiving Home Missionary Appropriations. In the case of a vacancy in the interim of the General Conference, the Board shall have power to provide for the duties of the office, until it shall be filled by the Bishops.

§ 9. Each Superintendent of a Department shall have supervision of the particular Department of work for which he was specifically chosen.

¶ 436, § 1. The Board shall have power to provide for and administer a Loan Fund, and Annuity Funds, either in connection with or separate from the Loan Fund, as it may determine; to take and hold in trust for the Methodist Episcopal Church any real or personal property; to dispose of the same for the use and benefit of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and

generally to do all and singular the matters and things which shall be necessary and lawful in the execution of its trust; provided, however, that all amounts received on the Loan Fund shall be used only for loans on adequate security; and provided further, that the aggregate amount of annuities which the Board shall assume to pay shall never be allowed to exceed the annual interest receivable on the loans made. The expenses incurred in the administration of such funds shall be charged to and defrayed out of the income received therefrom.

§ 2. The Board shall organize and administer a Trust Department, with a Trust officer in charge, which shall have custody of all trust funds held by the Board, and of all its deeds, securities and collateral. Separate books and bank accounts shall be kept of all transactions in this Department.

§ 3. The Board shall have authority (1) to organize such bureaus as may be necessary for the successful prosecution of the work; (2) to elect Field Secretaries, with the concurrence of the Corresponding Secretary; (3) to aid either by donation or loan, or both, the building of Churches and Parsonages; (4) to make By-Laws for the regulation of its proceedings.

§ 4. The Board shall report its proceedings and the state of its funds quadrennially to the General Conference.

¶ 437, § 1. The more effectually to accomplish the purposes of the Board there shall be organized five departments of work, viz.: the Department of Church Extension, the Department of City Work, the Department of Rural Work, the Department of Frontier Work, and the Department of Evangelism.

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§ 2. Each Department, as organized by the Board, shall consist of the Superintendent, five Ministers and five Laymen. The Board shall have power to add to the membership of any department at the request of the Superintendent. The members of the Department may or may not be members of the Board.

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### III. Department of Church Extension

¶ 438, § 1. The Department of Church Extension shall encourage the erection of churches in new communities not already adequately supplied; shall assist in the building of churches and parsonages where assistance is most needed; and shall give special attention to church architecture, helping all our societies, when erecting churches, to build structures adapted to their requirements.

§ 2. All applications for Church Extension aid shall be made through the Annual Conference Board. Appropriations shall be granted by the Board or the Executive Committee, upon recommendation of the Department.

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### IV. Department of City Work

¶ 439, § 1. The Department of City Work shall further in every practicable way the organized religious and social work in places having City Societies, as hereinafter provided.

§ 2. It shall promote the organization of City Societies wherever opportunity offers.

§ 3. It shall aid in making surveys in our cities with special reference to the religious conditions of foreign-speaking peoples, the necessary changes in

the location and adaptation of Church buildings and the relation of the Church to needy and congested communities. It shall also aid in the organization and development of adequate religious centers in the heart of great cities. It shall administer such appropriations as shall be committed to it by the Board.

§ 4. All City Societies duly organized shall report annually to this Department their requests for appropriations, indicating the special purposes for which grants are to be used.

§ 5. All appropriations for work in Cities shall be made to and administered by the Department of City Work. The amounts thus designated shall be paid to the Treasurer of the Conference Board, except where there are City Societies duly organized, and in active operation, in which cases, all appropriations shall be made to and administered by such Societies, drafts in payments of such appropriations being sent direct to the Treasurer of the City Society.

§ 6. All City Societies shall be auxiliary to the Board, and shall make each year to the Department of City Work a detailed statement, which shall include, (1) Number of Ministers or Missionaries supported in whole or in part, the amount paid to each, and the kind of work in which each is engaged; (2) Expenses of administration; (3) The total amount raised by the Society and how expended. The report shall also include such other items as the Department shall require. The summary of such reports may be published in connection with the annual report of the Board.

§ 7. The Department of City Work shall maintain a Bureau of Goodwill Industries. The Department of City Work shall constitute the Board of Direc-

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tors of the Bureau. The object of the Bureau shall be to provide for the religious, educational, social, and industrial welfare of the unfortunate. The Bureau shall support and indorse only those local industries which are organized and conducted according to its established rules and regulations, and these local industries shall be administered as far as practicable in cooperation with local City Societies.

¶ 440. CITY SOCIETIES. In order to promote evangelization and to coordinate the work of our Church in cities and in communities contiguous to each other it is recommended that, wherever such city, or community, shall have three or more Pastoral Charges, and where, in the judgment of their Resident Bishop and the District Superintendent or Superintendents concerned, it is deemed advisable, a City Soccity shall be organized, under such name and control as it may determine. The Resident Bishop, the District Superintendent or Superintendents having jurisdiction in the territory covered by the Society, and all Pastors therein, shall be *ex officio* members of said Society or of its Board of Managers. Each Quarterly Conference shall also be entitled to at least one lay representative in the Society or Board.

¶ 441, § 1. The City Society may include in its work the organization of Churches and Sunday Schools, the aid of weak Churches, the acquisition of real estate, and the erection of buildings, the adaptation of downtown Churches to their altered environment, the securing and holding of endowments for the City Society and dependent Churches, the conducting of missions among foreign-speaking peoples, the development of well-organized open-air Evangelism, the maintenance of kindergartens and indus-

trial schools, the promotion of social and settlement work, the support of rescue missions, and of institutions for the relief of the sick and the destitute. A City Society may also devise plans for promoting the connectional life of Methodism, and for cooperation and federation with other denominations.

§ 2. A City Society may elect, either from within or from without its membership, not more than three persons, members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as members of the Quarterly Conference of any Church under its supervision or the object of its benefactions. The persons so chosen shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of Quarterly Conference Membership.

§ 3. In Annual Conferences, where there exists a City Society, having an executive official, giving his entire time to the work, it is recommended, that said executive official shall be consulted, as far as practicable, in fixing appointments that affect Missions or Churches administered or aided by said Society.

§ 4. A City Society shall have authority in the territory covered by its Constitution or Charter, to make apportionments upon the Pastoral Charges, and to collect and disburse moneys for all the objects contemplated in its organization.

§ 5. A City Society, in order to receive appropriations from the Board, shall meet the following conditions: (a) it shall be organized according to the Discipline; (b) it shall have an Executive Committee Meeting at least once every quarter; (c) it shall be actively at work; (d) it shall have made a report as required by the Department of City Work; (e) it shall raise annually by collections or otherwise an

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amount at least equal to that appropriated to it by the Board, excluding appropriations made for work among foreign-speaking peoples.

§ 6. There shall be a Council, or Councils of Cities, composed of the Corresponding Secretary, the Superintendent of the Department of City Work, and two delegates from each duly organized City Society. It shall be the duty of the Department of City Work to convene the Council or Councils annually at such time and place and under such conditions as said Department shall determine; at least four weeks' notice having been given to the City Societies.

¶ 442, § 1. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendent whose District covers in whole or in part a city, or contains communities contiguous to each other in which there are three or more Churches, to cooperate with the Department of City Work in securing, whenever practicable, the organization of a City Society as herein provided. Churches in communities adjacent to a city, and not attached to any other Society, may be included in the Society of the adjacent city.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of each Pastor whose Charge lies within the territory of a City Society, once each year to present the interests of the Society to his congregation, take a collection for the same, or provide for the amount apportioned in the benevolent budget, and report the amount received to the Annual Conference.

§ 3. The Annual Conferences are directed to take such friendly interest in the City Societies within their bounds as shall promote their efficiency and facilitate their work; to arrange for the publication of their reports in the Conference Minutes and to

provide a separate column in connection with the statement of the General Benevolent Collections for the itemized report of the offerings for this work.

### V. Department of Rural Work

¶ 443, § 1. The Department of Rural Work shall have the following powers and duties: To encourage the organization of Rural Societies as hereinafter provided, and to cooperate with them when established.

§ 2. To make surveys in rural Church fields in order to ascertain their resources and needs and to determine the centers where permanent Church enterprises might be established which would serve the whole community.

§ 3. To apportion such funds as may be appropriated for this purpose to strategic centers widely distributed throughout the country for a given period of years and thus to demonstrate the service such a Church enterprise can render.

§ 4. To recommend to the responsible organizations cases where denominational exchanges should be made and where cooperative or federated plans could be worked out to prevent overlapping by competing denominations, and also to point out where Churches of our own denomination should be united.

§ 5. To promote the study of rural sociology among our Ministers, and in our Colleges and Theological Schools, and to plan complete Courses of Study in our denominational Colleges for the preparation of those who catch the vision and feel the call to life-work in the rural field.

§ 6. To cooperate with all the allies of the Church

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in the great task of improving the economic, social, educational, and religious life of the people in the rural sections.

§ 7. To have such further powers and duties as will help to keep our Church fully abreast of the best thought and experience of the day concerning rural life.

¶ 444. RURAL SOCIETIES. § 1. Rural Societies may be organized on any District of any Annual Conference. They shall be auxiliary to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, and report to the same.

§ 2. Such Societies may select their own name, determine their own organization, and prosecute such work as they deem best, under the advice of the Superintendent of the Rural Work Department.

§ 3. These Societies shall give special attention to the survey of their fields, to the development of a more efficient rural ministry, to religious and social work in neglected communities, and especially among non-English-speaking people, to the establishment of new Churches where needed, to the consolidation of Churches in over-churched communities, to the encouragement of a spirit of unity among our own Churches and cooperation and federation with other denominations.

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## VI. Department of Frontier Work

¶ 445. The Department of Frontier Work shall have for its field of operations the newer sections of the country, as defined by the Board. It shall study the conditions and prospects of such sections, encourage the organization of new Churches where

desirable, recommend the changing of the location of Churches as shifting populations may indicate, avoid planting Churches in communities already adequately supplied, recommend such appropriations to Missionaries as will best further the work and develop local support, and shall cooperate with the Board of Sunday Schools and with other denominations in the most friendly spirit.

## VII. Department of Evangelism

¶ 446, § 1. The Department of Evangelism shall be established for the purpose of promoting aggressive evangelism throughout the home field.

§ 2. Its special mission shall be to inspire the Church to more earnest pastoral and personal evangelism, including intercession and family worship; to prevent so far as possible the loss of members through the nonresident plan; to cooperate with District Superintendents, Pastors and city and rural Societies in evangelistic campaigns where most needed; to assist the Board of Education in prosecuting evangelistic work in colleges and universities and secondary schools; to promote and assist the work of chaplains in the army and navy, and religious work among coast guards; and to establish a Bureau through which to utilize the services of accredited Methodist evangelists.

§ 3. The Board of Home Missions and Church Extension shall cooperate with the Board of Education in providing for the religious training of Methodist students at tax-supported independent and other educational institutions not under control of the Methodist Episcopal Church, by naming three of its mem-

bers to serve with a like committee of the Board of Education to have general supervision over all such work and to make grants of money from available funds for the support of such work.

The Corresponding Secretaries respectively of the Board of Education and the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension shall be members *ex officio* of said Joint Committee.

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### VIII. Annual Conference Boards

¶ 447, § 1. In each Annual Conference there shall be a Conference Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, composed of the District Superintendents *ex officio*, and an equal number of Ministers and Laymen elected by the Annual Conference on nomination of the District Superintendents. Such Board shall have a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. These officers, together with the District Superintendents, shall constitute an Executive Committee, with authority to recommend contingent or emergency appropriations, and to distribute all Home Mission Funds at the disposal of the Annual Conference. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Annual Conference to send the names of these officers to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, and to publish them in the Conference Minutes.

§ 2. The Conference Board shall hold its Annual Meeting on the call of the President, and other meetings may be called by the President, or any three members, on due notice. The transactions of the year shall be reported by the President to the Annual Conference.

§ 3. The Board of Home Missions and Church Ex-

tension, in making payments to meet appropriations, shall send drafts to the Secretary of the Conference Board, payable to the Treasurer, except in the case of duly organized City Societies or Rural Societies, in which case remittances shall be made direct to them.

§ 4. In Mission Conferences there shall be a Board of Home Missions and Church Extension constituted as in an Annual Conference, and having the same duties and powers.

### IX. Boards of Church Location

¶ 448. There shall be, in each District of an Annual Conference, a Board of Church Location, consisting of the District Superintendent and three Ministers and three Laymen, nominated by the District Superintendent and approved by the Conference. It shall be the duty of this Board to prevent the selection of improper sites, and consider and determine all questions relating to the selection of new Church Locations which may be referred to it by the District Superintendent or by the vote of any Quarterly Conference. The decision of said Board shall be final, unless overruled by the Annual Conference. It also shall be the duty of this Board, when requested by the District Superintendent or the Quarterly Conference of a Church contemplating the erection of a new edifice or the extensive remodeling of an existing one, to consider carefully the entire situation, and report to the District Superintendent and the Quarterly Conference its opinion as to the feasibility of the enterprise.

**X. Administration of Missions**

¶ 449, § 1. A Mission shall meet annually at the time and place appointed by the Bishop in charge, who shall preside if present. In the absence of the Bishop the Superintendent of the Mission shall preside. The presiding officer shall bring forward the regular business of the meeting, and arrange the work. This Annual Meeting shall possess the functions and powers of a District Conference, although the authority to license Local Preachers, and to renew the licenses of Local Preachers and Exhorters, shall remain with the Quarterly Conferences.

§ 2. In Annual Missions using a language other than English examinations of local and traveling preachers shall be held by the Mission, and certified to the Annual Conference concerned. The Mission shall also make the recommendations for Admission on Trial in an Annual Conference.

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## CHAPTER VI

**WOMAN'S HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY**

¶ 450. There shall be an organization known as the Woman's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which Society shall have authority to collect and disburse money, employ Missionaries, and do work among the neglected populations in the home field under the same Disciplinary rules and regulations as those which apply to the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society except the requirements contained in ¶ 429, §§ 3, 4.

## CHAPTER VII

## BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR NEGROES

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I. General Object

¶ 451. The work of the Board of Education for Negroes shall be the establishment and maintenance of institutions for Christian education among the colored people in the Southern States and elsewhere. The instruction in these institutions shall include such literary, professional, and biblical courses of study and such industrial training as will tend to develop the highest Christian character. These institutions shall be located with reference to an educational system comprising collegiate centers and cooperative preparatory academies, so that with the greatest economy the educational needs of the people may be most fully met. Contributions shall be taken through the Church for the maintenance and support of this work, and for this purpose Lincoln's Birthday shall be observed wherever practicable. The schools shall be made self-supporting as rapidly as the financial conditions of the people will permit. Special efforts shall be made to secure permanent endowments for the various institutions, and the Board of Managers, whenever it is satisfied that the support will be ample and that the property will be maintained and perpetuated, may convey the control of said schools to a local Board of Trustees.

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II. Board of Managers

¶ 452. There shall be a Board of Managers consisting of six General Superintendents, twelve Ministers, and

## ¶ 453 BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR NEGROES

twelve Laymen, to be elected quadrennially by the General Conference, upon nomination by the Bishops; their term of service shall begin on the first Wednesday in June following their election, and continue until their successors shall enter upon their duties. The Corresponding Secretaries shall be members of the Board *ex officio*. *Ad interim* vacancies shall be filled by the Bishops until the session of the ensuing General Conference, and the absence of any member from four consecutive meetings of the Board without reasonable excuse shall create a vacancy. The Board of Managers, being incorporated according to law, shall be subject to the control of the General Conference and the provisions of the Discipline, and shall have such powers and prerogatives as are needed to conduct the work of the Society, to designate what institutions shall receive aid for the ensuing year, and, as far as practicable, the amount each school shall receive; to determine the total amount to be expended in the support of the schools and for administrative purposes. Eleven members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business, except the purchase and sale of real estate, in which case a majority of the members shall constitute a quorum and the concurrent vote of eleven members shall be necessary to complete any such transaction. The Board shall make a quadrennial report to the General Conference, and shall publish quarterly, or oftener, full information concerning its work.

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### III. Officers

¶ 453, § 1. The officers of the Board shall be a President, three or more Vice-Presidents, two co-

ordinate Corresponding Secretaries, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Assistant Treasurer, all of whom, except the Corresponding Secretaries, shall be elected by the Board at its annual meeting each year; but a vacancy may be filled at any meeting.

§ 2. The Corresponding Secretaries shall be elected by the General Conference, and as Administrative Officers shall be in all official acts subject to the authority and control of the Board of Managers. Their time shall be occupied, under the direction of the Board, in promoting the interests of the Society by conducting the correspondence and office work, traveling through the Church, giving general supervision to the institutions of learning under the care of the Society, and rendering other needful forms of service. In case of vacancy by death, resignation, or otherwise, the Board shall provide for the duties of the office until the Bishops shall fill the vacancy. The Board shall fix and pay the respective salaries of all its salaried Officers.

§ 3. The Publishing Agent at Cincinnati shall be the Treasurer of the Society, and the Board of Managers may appoint such Assistant Treasurers as it deems wise.

#### IV. District Superintendents

¶ 454, § 1. Each District Superintendent, as early in the Conference year as possible, shall inform each Pastor in his District of the amount to be raised in his Pastoral Charge, and he shall also inquire at the third Quarterly Conference if the amount asked for has been raised, and if not, he shall urge that it be secured before the close of the Conference year.

§ 2. At the last Quarterly Conference of each year a committee of not less than three nor more than nine shall be appointed, of which the Pastor shall be the Chairman, to be called the Committee on Education for Negroes, whose duty it shall be to aid in carrying into effect the provisions of the Discipline and the plans of the Officers and Managers of the Society for the support of this cause, so that at least the amount asked for each year from the Pastoral Charge shall be secured. The Committee shall also see that information concerning this work is diffused among the people, using as one means for this purpose the literature published by the Society.

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### V. Pastors

¶ 455. The Pastor, aided by the Committee on Apportioned Benevolences and the Committee on Education for Negroes, where such Committee is constituted, shall provide for an annual day in the interest of this cause, and whenever practicable this day shall be the Sunday nearest to Lincoln's Birthday, when the Pastor shall present or shall have presented the Cause of Negro Education in the public congregation. On this occasion offerings and pledges may be received to meet the apportionment made by the Committee on Conservation and Advance, unless such apportionment has been already provided for by the Every-Member-Canvass budget plan. This apportionment being a minimum asking, a free-will offering may be received in addition thereto.

## CHAPTER VIII

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

I. The Board of Education

¶ 456, § 1. It is the object of the Board of Education to serve as the officially authorized agency of the Methodist Episcopal Church in behalf of ministerial and general education, seeking to diffuse the blessings of education and Christianity throughout the United States, and to cooperate with other Boards in educational work under their care.

§ 2. This Board shall have an advisory relation to the business and educational management of all the schools, colleges, and other educational interests or agencies of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States; shall devise ways and means for the aid of institutions; and shall receive and disburse such funds as may from time to time be committed to it. It may serve as a Board of Reference or Arbitration and when necessary may take measures to protect the property interests of our educational institutions. It shall seek to promote general and theological education and religious training of students at institutions of the Methodist Episcopal Church and of Methodist students at tax-supported, independent, or other institutions. It shall promote the cause of education throughout the Church by collecting and publishing statistics, by furnishing plans for educational buildings, and by giving counsel with regard to the location and organization of institutions. It shall also serve as a general medium

for communication between teachers desiring employment and institutions needing their services.

§ 3. In furthering ministerial education as provided in § 1 of this paragraph, this Board shall cooperate with the Board of Bishops in the work of the Commission on Courses of Study and shall nominate to the Board of Bishops three members from the faculties of the educational institutions of the Church to represent the Board of Education on said Commission (¶ 210, § 1). The work of the Commission shall be reported to the annual meeting of the Board of Education and the Board shall serve as the repository of the records of this Commission. The Board shall provide funds as may be found necessary, and as may be approved by the Board, for the work of the Commission.

¶ 457, § 1. The management of the affairs and properties of the Board of Education shall rest in a Board of Trustees consisting of thirty-six members, of whom one half shall be Laymen and at least three shall be Bishops, with at least one member resident in each General Conference District. The said Board of Trustees shall constitute the Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a corporation existing under the laws of the State of New York. One third of the Board shall be elected at each General Conference on the nomination of the Board of Bishops, to serve for a term of twelve years.

§ 2. Vacancies in the Board shall be filled by the Bishops or a majority of them, the persons so appointed to serve until the next succeeding General Conference.

¶ 458, § 1. The officers of the Board shall be a President, one or more Vice-Presidents, a Correspond-

ing Secretary, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer, and such other officers or agents, paid or unpaid, as the Board may from time to time determine. The officers, except such as are elected by the General Conference, shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Board. The salaries of all officers and employees shall be fixed by the Board, and the By-Laws shall prescribe the duties of each.

§ 2. The Corresponding Secretary shall be elected by the General Conference and, subject to the provisions of the Discipline and the direction of the Board, he shall conduct the correspondence and business of the Board. In all his official conduct he shall be subject to the authority and control of the Board. His time shall be employed in conducting its affairs and in promoting its general interests.

§ 3. Any vacancy in the office of Corresponding Secretary caused by death, resignation, or otherwise, shall be filled temporarily by the Board until the Bishops or a majority of them shall fill the vacancy, and the person so appointed shall hold office until the next succeeding General Conference.

¶ 459, § 1. The Board shall hold an annual meeting at such time and place as it may determine, subject to the conditions of its charter, and may hold such special meetings as from time to time may be necessary. Twelve members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

§ 2. The Board may appoint an Executive Committee of such number as it may determine and may commit to said Executive Committee such business or confer upon it such powers not inconsistent with the charter or with General Conference legislation, as the Board may determine.

§ 3. There shall be appointed annually by the Board a Standing Committee on Finance, consisting of five members of the Board, with whom may also be associated as advisory members, two additional persons not members of the Board. To the care and management of the Finance Committee shall be intrusted the funds of the corporation, the preparation of the annual budget, the fixing of the official bond of the Treasurer, and the proper investment of the moneys of the corporation under the direction of the Board of Trustees. No investments or securities shall be changed by the Treasurer without the consent of a majority of the Finance Committee first obtained by resolution adopted at a regular meeting thereof. Minutes of all the proceedings of the Finance Committee shall be kept and submitted to the stated meetings of the Board of Trustees for approval.

§ 4. The Board may also appoint a Local Administrative Committee of such number as it may determine, composed of members of the Board residing within convenient distance of the general offices of the Board. Said Local Administrative Committee shall include members, respectively, of the Executive and Finance Committees in such numbers as may from time to time be determined by the Board. It shall be empowered to transact such business as may be referred to it by the Board, by the Executive Committee, or by the Corresponding Secretary of the Board. Its actions shall in all cases be fully reported to the Executive Committee and by the Executive Committee to the stated meetings of the Board.

¶ 460, § 1. The Board of Education shall receive and separately invest the moneys contributed prior

to the first day of January, 1885, for the Sunday School Children's Fund, commenced during the Centenary of 1866. This fund shall be known as "The Sunday School Children's Fund of 1866." The income thereof, aside from such sums as may be appropriated for expenses of administration, shall be devoted to the purpose of assisting meritorious Sunday school scholars, members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in obtaining more advanced education, preference being given to the aid of young persons preparing for the ministry or for the Home or Foreign Missionary work of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

§ 2. The Board shall receive the moneys derived from the Children's Day collections taken annually in the Sunday Schools throughout the Church, which moneys shall constitute "The Children's Day Fund." This fund shall be appropriated year by year to the aid of needy students who are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and if any surplus remain in any year after appropriating so much of the principal sum received from the collections for that year as may be necessary for the aid of students, such surplus shall be added to "The Sunday School Children's Fund of 1866," described in § 1 of this paragraph.

§ 3. Each Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall be entitled to share equitably in the income of the Sunday School Children's Fund of 1866 and in the distribution of moneys annually received from the Children's Day collections; *provided*, the annual collections for the said purpose are taken in the Sunday Schools within its bounds and are forwarded to the Board of Education.

§ 4. Aid from the Sunday School Children's Fund

of 1866 or from The Children's Day Fund shall be granted only in the form of loans; but, by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, the Board shall have authority to cancel said loans in part or in whole for causes which seem to it sufficient.

§ 5. The Board shall receive and securely invest the principal of "The Centenary Educational Fund" as distinguished from "The Sunday School Children's Fund of 1866" and shall appropriate the income therefrom to the aid of universities, colleges, academies, biblical or theological schools, or other educational agencies under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal Church which are now in existence or which may hereafter be established with the approval of the General Conference through the Board of Education; provided, that no institution not now in existence shall be aided by the Board unless the Board shall have first been consulted and shall have approved of the establishment and organization of such institution before the project was undertaken. The Board shall seek to augment the Centenary Educational Fund for the aid of educational institutions under its care.

§ 6. The Board shall receive from the Treasurers of Annual Conferences, Mission Conferences, and Missions in the United States the public educational collection taken annually in the Charges throughout the Church and shall disburse the same for the aid of educational institutions and agencies under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal Church under such rules as the Board may adopt subject to General Conference legislation. In making appropriations from this fund to individual institutions, the Board

shall give due consideration to the actual current needs of the institutions as shown in carefully prepared reports presented to it by the institution on budget forms provided by the Board. Small colleges with limited endowment but rich in their contribution to the religious leadership of the Church are especially commended to the favorable consideration of the Board. In case the public educational collection in any Conference in a given year shall exceed the official apportionment for this cause, the excess may be retained by the Conference for the benefit of the approved educational institutions under its patronage as the Conference may determine. No university, college, secondary school, or theological school of the Methodist Episcopal Church receiving aid from the public educational collection in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1920, shall hereafter receive less from this collection than it is entitled to receive under the provisions of the Discipline of 1916 (see Discipline 1916, ¶ 469), nor less during each of the four years following this action than is secured for it by present special agreements under the Centenary guarantee, except that any Annual Conference, desiring a redistribution of the said guarantee may have the right of appeal to the Board of Education. In the case of such appeal, the action of the Board of Education shall be final.

§ 7. The Board of Education shall have especial care of the schools of the South which were committed to it for maintenance and administration by the General Conference of 1908.

§ 8. The Board may solicit, create, and administer a fund which shall aid in providing retiring allowances or pensions for the presidents, professors, and

other members of the faculties of the educational institutions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and may adopt rules and regulations for the administration of such fund.

§ 9. The Board shall have power to administer any and all other funds, gifts, or bequests, committed to it for educational purposes, and shall be authorized to solicit and create any special funds deemed wise in the carrying out of the objects and purposes of the Board and to administer the same under such rules and regulations as it may adopt.

§ 10. The Board of Education shall cooperate with the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension in the care and religious training of Methodist students at tax-supported, independent, and other educational institutions not under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal Church, by naming three of its members to serve with a like Committee of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension to have general supervision over all such work. The Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Education and the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension shall be additional *ex officio* members of this Joint Committee. The Board of Education may make grants of money from available funds for the support of such work.

¶ 461. Educational societies or foundations created by Annual Conferences may be recognized as auxiliaries of the Board of Education when their objects and purposes, their articles of incorporation, and their methods of administration are approved by the Annual Conference within whose bounds they are incorporated and by the Board of Education. All auxiliaries thus formed shall be required to send

annually a report of their fiscal and administrative affairs to the Board of Education.

¶ 462. The Board of Trustees may from time to time adopt By-Laws for the regulation of the affairs of the Board not inconsistent with the Charter or with General Conference legislation.

## II. Educational Institutions

¶ 463, § 1. The educational institutions in the United States under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall be classified as follows:

1. Primary Schools and Religious Day Schools.
2. Secondary Schools.
3. Colleges and Universities.
4. Schools of Theology.
5. Auxiliaries and Foundations.

In the foreign mission fields, where the classification of schools under the national educational system differs from that in the United States, the tabulation and description of schools shall harmonize with the national system, and in official publications in the United States appropriate explanatory notes shall be published with the tables.

§ 2. In mission fields or other localities in the United States where provision for elementary instruction is inadequate, primary schools may be established, under the supervision of the Board of Education. The Board of Education may cooperate with local churches or interchurch groups by advising as to the courses of study for religious instruction in community day schools.

§ 3. Wherever conditions are favorable an Annual or Mission Conference may have under its patronage one or more secondary schools, colleges, universi-

ties, theological schools, or other educational institutions or agencies, provided such institutions have the approval of the Board of Education and meet the requirements of the University Senate.

§ 4. An Annual or Mission Conference in the United States may not establish or acquire a secondary school, college, or university, except in case of clear necessity and with the prospect of sufficient financial support for its permanent equipment and maintenance, and with the approval of the Board of Education.

§ 5. The theological schools of the church shall be those whose professors are nominated or confirmed by the Bishops, and they shall exist for the benefit of the whole Church. It is the duty of the Bishops, District Superintendents, and Pastors to direct the attention of candidates for the Ministry of our Church, having proper qualifications, to our theological schools. This shall apply to theological schools in the United States only.

§ 6. Auxiliaries and foundations established for the promotion of educational work under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal Church may be recognized by the Board of Education and be listed in its reports when their objects and plans, their articles of incorporation, their methods of administration, and their educational standards are approved by the Annual Conference within whose bounds they are established and by the Board of Education.

§ 7. The Board of Education shall publish in its annual report a list of all the educational institutions under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal Church, classified in accordance with § 1 of this paragraph, and the findings of the University Senate.

It shall be the duty of the President or other administrative officer of each educational institution to furnish to the Board of Education such statistics or other information as may enable the Board to make a report of the standing and equipment of each of the institutions. *Provided*, however, that in the case of educational institutions in the foreign field, the information desired shall be secured through the Board of Foreign Missions.

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### III. The University Senate

¶ 464, § 1. The University Senate of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall be appointed quadrennially by the Bishops, and shall be composed of twenty-one persons actively engaged in the work of education, one from each General Conference District, whose residence and educational work are within the District, and six members at large. It is not required that the Conference relation of a ministerial member be held in the General Conference District which he represents, provided his residence and educational work are within such District. If, in consequence of the retirement of a member from educational work, or from any other cause, a vacancy occur in the body during the quadrennium, it shall be the duty of the Bishops at their next semiannual meeting to fill such vacancy.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the University Senate to protect the educational standards of the Church. The Senate shall have authority to establish standards for the various educational institutions and foundations under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and shall have advisory oversight

of the educational work conducted under the several Benevolent Boards of the Church with a view to ascertaining its quality and effectiveness.

§ 3. The Senate shall determine and at least quadrennially revise the minimum requirements to be maintained for admission, for graduation, and for promotion to baccalaureate degrees, in the educational institutions under the patronage of the Church. The requirements thus established shall provide in all cases for the historical and literary study of the Bible.

§ 4. At the request of the President and the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Education, or at the written request of five of its own members, the University Senate shall investigate the scholastic requirements and methods of any designated educational institution or foundation claiming to be under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and shall report to the Board of Education its decision as to whether the requirements and methods of said institution are such as to justify its official recognition by the Church. The Senate shall report at least quadrennially to the Board of Education a proper classification for each educational institution or foundation under the patronage of the Church, and on the basis of this report the Board of Education shall prepare its official lists of institutions and shall be governed in its administration.

§ 5. At the request of any of the Benevolent Boards of the Church, the University Senate shall examine the quality of the educational work done under the auspices of such Board and shall report to the Board concerned its estimate of the merit of such educational work.

§ 6. The Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Education shall be the Executive Secretary of the University Senate, and the necessary expenses of the University Senate in the conduct of its work shall be borne by the Board of Education, except that expenses incurred on behalf of any other of the Benevolent Boards of the Church shall be borne by that Board.

§ 7. The University Senate shall meet in regular session at least twice in each quadrennium.

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#### IV. Annual Conferences

¶ 465, § 1. It shall be the duty of each Annual Conference to organize within its bounds an Annual Conference Board of Education. This Board shall consist of at least one and not more than four Ministers and an equal number of Laymen for each District, as the Annual Conference may determine, to be elected by the Annual Conference and hold office for three years. The Board shall be divided into three classes, each containing approximately one third of the Ministers and one third of the Laymen, one class to be elected at each session of the Annual Conference upon nomination of the Conference Committee on Education, unless otherwise determined by the Conference; *provided*, that at the first election one class shall be elected for three years, one class for two years, and one class for one year. All Presidents of colleges or universities, theological schools, principals of secondary schools and official heads of auxiliaries of the Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which are under the

patronage of the Conference, shall be members *ex officio* of the Annual Conference Board.

§ 2. The Ministerial Members of the Conference Board of Education shall report the acts and affairs of the Conference Board to the Annual Conference, and shall transmit the instructions and acts of the Annual Conference relative to education and educational institutions to the Conference Board of Education.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the Conference Board of Education:

(1) To organize by the election of a Chairman and a Secretary-Treasurer to serve for one year or until their successors are elected, and to appoint such committees as are necessary to accomplish its work.

(2) To hold at least one meeting each year for the consideration and promotion within the Annual Conference of the general and local interests of education, at which meeting the Corresponding Secretary or other representative of the Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall be present if possible.

(3) To provide for the visitation each year of the approved educational institutions within the bounds of the Annual Conference or under its patronage, in cases where Conference Visitors are not provided for by Charters or other established method of the Annual Conference. Conference Visitors to the respective educational institutions shall report upon the same to the Conference Board of Education, and the Conference Board shall report upon such institutions to the Annual Conference and, upon request, to the Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

(4) To review the financial reports and budgets prepared by educational institutions under the patronage of the Conference for presentation to the Annual Conference and to the Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church as a basis for requests for appropriations from the Public Educational Collection, and to make recommendations thereon.

(5) To provide for the presentation of the cause of education within the bounds of the Annual Conference and to assist as may be found possible in taking educational collections.

(6) To secure lists of the members of the educational committees of each Charge within the bounds of the Annual Conference and as far as possible to coordinate the work of such committees.

(7) To have charge of the anniversary of the Board of Education at the session of the Annual Conference and to arrange for conventions and other public educational meetings.

(8) To assist in formulating the plans and programs of the Annual Conference in furtherance of its educational interests; to serve as an agency of the Conference in carrying into effect such plans and programs or other instructions of the Annual Conference; and to make a report at the Annual Conference session of the acts and affairs of the Conference Board of Education for the year.

§ 4. The Treasurer of each Annual Conference at the close of each Conference session shall report to the Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church the amount of all moneys raised for educational purposes and the objects to which they have been applied.

**V. District Superintendents**

¶ 466. It shall be the duty of each District Superintendent to bring the subject of education before the fourth Quarterly Conference of each Pastoral Charge within his District, and the Quarterly Conference shall appoint a Committee on Education, consisting of not less than three nor more than seven persons, of which Committee the Pastor shall be Chairman. This Committee shall aid the Pastor in canvassing the Charge for the purpose of stimulating interest in the higher education of our youth, by distributing the catalogues and circulars of the secondary schools, colleges, universities, and theological institutions of the Church, and by seeking to secure the attendance of our young people upon these institutions.

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**VI. Pastors**

¶ 467, § 1. It shall be the duty of every Pastor to cause each Sunday School under his charge to observe the second Sunday in June or such other day as may be more convenient, as Children's Day, and on that day as a part of the service there shall be taken in each charge a collection to be devoted to the aid of worthy students in educational institutions. The Pastor shall forward the money received from this collection to the Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church and all such moneys received by the Board shall constitute the Children's Day Fund to be administered for the purposes for which the collection was taken under such rules as the Board may adopt subject to General Conference legislation. The Pastor shall report the amount of

the Children's Day Collection to the Annual Conference among the Disciplinary Benevolences.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of every Pastor to take a public collection annually in each Society in aid of the general work of education in addition to the Children's Day Collection referred to in § 1 of this paragraph. The moneys received from this collection shall be forwarded by the Pastor to the Treasurer of the Annual Conference and shall be reported among the Disciplinary Benevolences under the heading "Public Educational Collection." The total amount of the Public Educational Collection shall be forwarded by the Treasurer of the Conference to the Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church to constitute a fund for the aid of institutions to be administered for such purpose under such rules as the Board may adopt subject to General Conference legislation. In case the Public Educational Collection in any Conference in a given year shall exceed the official apportionment for this cause, the excess may be retained by the Conference for the benefit of the approved educational institutions under its patronage as the Conference may determine. (¶ 460, § 6.)

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## CHAPTER IX

### BOARD OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS

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#### I. Incorporation

¶ 468, § 1. For the moral and religious instruction of our children, and for the promotion of Bible knowledge among all our people, there shall be a

Board of Sunday Schools, duly incorporated according to the laws of the State of Illinois, and having its headquarters in the city of Chicago. The said Board shall have general oversight of all the Sunday School interests of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and shall be subject to such rules and regulations as the General Conference from time to time may prescribe.

§ 2. The Board of Sunday Schools shall be composed of the Corresponding Secretary of said Board and the Editor of Sunday School Publications, who shall be *ex officio* members thereof; three effective Bishops, one member from each General Conference District, who shall reside therein, and a sufficient number of members at large to make up the number of twenty-nine as the entire membership of said Board. There shall be both lay and clerical members, such as are expert in Sunday School work. All the members of said Board except the two *ex officio* members shall be elected by the General Conference upon nomination of the Board of Bishops.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of said Board to found Sunday Schools in needy neighborhoods; to contribute to the support of Sunday Schools requiring assistance; to educate the Church in all phases of Sunday School work, constantly endeavoring to raise ideals and improve methods; to determine the Sunday School curriculum, including the courses for teacher training; and, in general, to give impulse and direction to the study of the Bible in the Church. It shall also be the duty of said Board, after consultation with the Editor of Sunday School Publications, to recommend to the Book Committee the kind and character of literature, requisites, supplies, etc.,

needed for use in our Sunday Schools; and the Publishing Agents shall provide and publish such literature, requisites, and supplies as, in the judgment of the Book Committee, the best interests of the Church may demand. It shall also be the duty of said Board to promote such organizations of men as the organized Bible classes, Brotherhoods, and kindred organizations.

§ 4. It shall be the duty of the Board of Sunday Schools to revise annually its list of members. In case any member representing a General Conference District remove therefrom, it shall declare his office vacant, and in case any member be inattentive to the duties of his office, or guilty of improper conduct, it may remove him by a majority vote of all of the members of said Board. All vacancies in said Board may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members thereof.

§ 5. The executive officers of the Board shall be the Corresponding Secretary and the Editor of Sunday School Publications, whose duties shall be as herein-after defined.

§ 6. The German Editor of Sunday School Publications in Cincinnati shall be the German Assistant Secretary of the Board of Sunday Schools, without additional salary. He shall also be an advisory member of the Board.

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## II. Corresponding Secretary

¶ 469, § 1. The General Conference shall elect quadrennially a Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Sunday Schools. Under the provisions of the Discipline and the authority, direction, and control of

said Board, he shall conduct its correspondence and business, except in so far as they relate to the duties of the Editor of Sunday School Publications. It shall be his duty to recommend to the Book Committee the preparation and publication of such Sunday School requisites and supplies as in his judgment may be necessary. His salary shall be fixed by the Board of Sunday Schools and paid out of the funds thereof. He shall be *ex officio* a member of the Board.

§ 2. The Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Sunday Schools may be suspended by said Board for any cause it may deem sufficient. In case of such suspension said Board shall fix a time, at as early a date as practicable, for the investigation of his conduct. After such investigation, said Corresponding Secretary may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the entire Board of Sunday Schools.

§ 3. Any vacancy in this office caused by death, resignation, or otherwise, shall be filled by the Board of Sunday Schools subject to the approval of the Board of Bishops.

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### III. Editor of Sunday School Publications

¶ 470, § 1. The General Conference shall elect quadrennially an Editor of Sunday School Publications.

§ 2. He shall prepare and edit all books and literature included in the Sunday School Curriculum, and all other required Sunday School publications.

§ 3. He shall be *ex officio* a member of the Board of Sunday Schools, but his salary shall be fixed by the Book Committee and paid by the Publishing

Agents. He shall be amenable to the Book Committee as provided in the Discipline.

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#### IV. Other Officers

¶ 471, § 1. The Board shall elect from among its members a President and two Vice-Presidents. It shall also elect a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer. It may, at its discretion, elect an Assistant Corresponding Secretary and such other Assistants as it may deem necessary for the proper efficient conduct of the work of the Board.

§ 2. All these officers shall be amenable to the Board for the faithful performance of their duties and may be discontinued or removed by a majority vote of the Board. Their compensation shall be fixed by the Board and paid out of its funds.

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#### V. Conference Board of Sunday Schools

¶ 472, § 1. It shall be the duty of each Annual Conference to organize a Conference Board of Sunday Schools. Said Board shall consist of the Superintendent of each District *ex officio* and an equal number of Laymen and Ministers from each District. The Conference Board shall be auxiliary to the General Board of Sunday Schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church and shall have oversight of the Sunday School interests of the Conference, and shall cooperate with the General Board in promoting the Sunday School work of the Conference and of the denomination at large.

§ 2. Among the duties of the Conference Board shall be the holding of Sunday School Institutes and

other meetings of Sunday School workers, the presentation of standard requirements for Methodist Episcopal Sunday Schools, the recommendation of the lesson helps authorized by the General Conference, the distribution of literature issued by the Board of Sunday Schools and the Methodist Book Concern, the stimulation of effective Sunday School organization, instruction and equipment, the promotion of Sunday School growth and extension, the encouragement of wise plans for Evangelistic efforts in the Sunday Schools and the promotion of the financial interests of the General Board of Sunday Schools. This Board shall take the place of the Annual Conference Committee on Sunday Schools and make an annual report of Sunday School conditions and progress to the Conference and to the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Sunday Schools.

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## VI. Local Sunday School Board

¶ 473, § 1. Every Sunday School of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall be under the supervision of a Local Sunday School Board, and shall be auxiliary to the Board of Sunday Schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

§ 2. The Local Sunday School Board shall consist of the Pastor, who shall be *ex officio* Chairman, the Director of Religious Education (when there is one), and the Committee on Religious Instruction appointed by the Quarterly Conference, the Superintendent, who shall be *ex officio* Vice-Chairman, and all other officers and teachers of the Sunday School elected or confirmed by the Local Board. In case of

the withdrawal of Officers and Teachers from the school, they shall cease to be members of the Board.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the Local Sunday School Board, wherever practicable, to organize the Sunday Schools into Temperance Societies, under such rules and regulations as the Local Board may prescribe. The duty of such Societies shall be to see that temperance instruction is imparted in the Sunday School, and to secure, so far as possible, the pledging of its members to total abstinence.

§ 4. It shall be the duty of the local Sunday School Board to promote the standard requirements for Methodist Episcopal Sunday Schools as determined by the General Board of Sunday Schools, and especially shall it be the duty of the Local Sunday School Board to provide a class or classes for the training of officers and teachers in the principles and methods of religious education and Sunday School work.

§ 5. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent, together with the Local Sunday School Board, to observe Sunday School Rally Day in each School under his charge as provided in ¶ 476, § 6, and to take a collection in said School at least once a year for the Board of Sunday Schools.

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## VII. Sunday School Officers and Teachers

¶ 474, § 1. The Superintendent shall be elected annually by ballot by the Local Sunday School Board, subject to confirmation by the Quarterly Conference at its first session after such election, and in case of a vacancy the Pastor shall superintend or secure the superintending of the School until such time as a

Superintendent elected by the Local Sunday School Board shall be confirmed by the Quarterly Conference.

§ 2. The other Officers of the School shall be elected annually by ballot by the Local Sunday School Board.

§ 3. The Teachers of the School shall be nominated by the Superintendent, with the concurrence of the Pastor, and shall be elected annually by the Local Sunday School Board.

§ 4. The place of any Officer or Teacher habitually neglectful, inefficient, or guilty of improper conduct, or of teaching contrary to the accepted doctrines of our Church, may be declared vacant by a vote of two thirds of the Local Sunday School Board present at any regular or special meeting. When a Teacher ceases to teach, without the consent of the Superintendent, his membership in the Local Sunday School Board shall thereby be discontinued.

§ 5. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent to report to each Quarterly Conference:

1. Name of Sunday School.
2. Number of officers and teachers.
3. Scholars—not including Home Department and Cradle Roll.
4. Members in Home Department.
5. Children on Cradle Roll.
6. Total enrollment in all departments, including Cradle Roll, Home Department, Scholars, Officers and Teachers.
7. Average attendance.
8. Members of school who are Church Members, or Preparatory Members, (a) Teachers and Officers; (b) Home Department; (c) other scholars not including Cradle Roll.

9. Professed conversions of Members of the Sunday School.

10. Accessions to the Church from the Sunday School.

11. Current expenses.

12. Given for Missions.

13. Given for Board of Sunday Schools.

14. Other benevolent collections.

15. To what extent are the schools graded?

16. Are the Sunday Schools furnished with the publications authorized by our Church? Graded or uniform lessons?

17. Have the Sunday Schools Missionary Superintendents and Committees?

18. Are they organized into Temperance Societies?

19. Miscellaneous.

NOTE.—He shall also, at the Fourth Quarterly Conference, render an annual report on the above items.

### VIII. District Superintendents

¶ 475, § 1. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendent to aid in all possible ways in developing the efficiency of the Sunday Schools of his district. He shall be especially required to promote graded organization, graded instruction, teacher training, and Evangelism; he shall also urge in all Schools the use of the literature authorized by the General Conference published by The Methodist Book Concern. He shall provide an annual institute for the instruction and training of the Sunday School workers of his District in the most effective methods of Sunday School work.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendent to bring the subject of Sunday Schools before

the fourth Quarterly Conference; and said Quarterly Conference shall appoint a Committee of members of our Church of not less than three nor more than nine for each Sunday School in the Charge, to be called the Committee on Religious Instruction, whose duty shall be as hereinafter described.

### IX. Pastors

¶ 476, § 1. It shall be the duty of the Pastor and the Director of Religious Education, aided by the Superintendent and the Committee on Religious Instruction, to decide as to what books and other publications shall be used in the Sunday Schools.

§ 2. It shall be the special duty of the Pastor, with the aid of the other Preachers and the Committee on Religious Instruction, to form Sunday Schools in all our Congregations where ten persons can be collected for that purpose, which Schools shall be auxiliary to the Board of Sunday Schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church; to engage the cooperation of as many of our members as he can; to visit the Schools as often as practicable; to preach on the subject of Sunday Schools and the religious instruction of children in each Congregation at least once in six months; to form classes, wherever practicable, for the instruction of the larger children, youth, and adults in the Word of God; and where he cannot superintend them personally, to see that suitable Teachers are provided for that purpose.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the Pastor faithfully to enforce upon parents and Sunday School Teachers the great importance of instructing children in the doctrines and duties of our holy religion; to see that our Catechisms be used as extensively as possible in

our Sunday Schools and families; and to preach to the children and catechize them publicly in the Sunday Schools and at public meetings appointed for that purpose.

§ 4. It shall be the duty of the Pastor in his Pastoral visits to pay special attention to the children; to speak to them personally and kindly according to their capacity on the subject of experimental and practical godliness; to pray earnestly for them; and diligently to instruct and exhort all parents to dedicate their children to the Lord in Baptism as early as convenient.

§ 5. Each Pastor shall lay before the Quarterly Conference, to be entered on its Journal, the number and state of the Sunday Schools in his Pastoral Charge, and the extent to which he has preached to the children and catechized them, and shall make the required report on Sunday Schools to his Annual Conference.

§ 6. It shall be the duty of every Pastor to cause each Church under his Charge to observe the first Sunday in October, or such other Sunday as may be more convenient, as Sunday School Rally Day, and upon said day as part of the service he shall take a collection to be devoted to the maintenance and advancement of Sunday School work throughout the bounds of the Church. The Pastor shall forward the said collection directly to the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Sunday Schools.

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## **X. Quarterly Conference Committee on Religious Instruction**

¶ 477, § 1. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Religious Instruction appointed by the Quarterly

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Conference to be in regular attendance at the Sunday School session, and to assist the Pastor and the local Sunday School Board in organizing and correlating all practicable forms of both Sunday and week-day religious instruction; to secure needed supplies and requisites for the Sunday School; and to cooperate in providing facilities for the week-day recreational life of the young people.

§ 2. It shall further secure adequate time for the Sunday School session; provide for a Sunday School anniversary in the Church service every year; promote an annual house-to-house visitation to increase Sunday School membership, Bible study and family worship in the home, and also aim to secure every member of the Church as a member of some department of the Sunday School.

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## CHAPTER X

### BOARD OF CONFERENCE CLAIMANTS

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#### I. Authorization

¶ 478, § 1. There shall be a Board of Conference Claimants, nominated by the Bishops and elected by the General Conference, consisting of one effective Bishop, seven Ministers and eight Laymen; also the Corresponding Secretary, *ex officio*. No Annual Conference shall have more than one representative on the Board.

§ 2. The Bishop and the Corresponding Secretary shall be elected quadrennially by the General Conference. The other members of the Board shall be divided into two classes:

Class I shall consist of four Laymen and four Ministers who shall be elected to serve for eight years.

Class II shall consist of four Laymen and three Ministers who shall be elected to serve for four years.

The General Conference of 1920 and subsequent General Conferences shall elect for a term of eight years the class whose term of service expires and shall fill vacancies in the classes. Vacancies occurring during the interval of the General Conference shall be filled until the session of the next General Conference by the Board, on nomination of the Bishops.

§ 3. The Board of Conference Claimants shall be duly and legally incorporated, according to the laws of the State of Illinois, with such powers and prerogatives as shall be needed for the accomplishing of the objects of the Board, as herein stated. This Board is authorized to adopt such measures as in its judgment are necessary to build up and administer a Connectional Permanent Fund which is hereby established, and to increase the revenues for the benefit of Conference Claimants. Seven members shall constitute a quorum. The office of the Board shall be in Chicago, Illinois.

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## II. Officers

¶ 479, § 1. There shall be a Corresponding Secretary who shall be elected by the General Conference, and shall be the chief executive officer of the Board. Under the provisions of the Discipline and the authority, direction and control of the Board, he shall conduct the correspondence and business, and promote the general interests of the Board.

§ 2. The other officers of the Board shall be a Pres-

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ident, a Vice-President, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Assistant Treasurer, who shall be elected annually by the Board and shall perform the duties usually pertaining to their respective offices. The Board may elect a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Assistant Treasurer outside of its own membership, or may elect as Treasurer any responsible bank or trust company, duly organized and incorporated under the laws of the United States or of any State.

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### III. Administration

¶ 480. The Board of Conference Claimants at its annual meeting shall determine what amount shall be required for maintaining and promoting the work of the Board and shall present this amount to the Council of Boards of Benevolence to be included in the askings of the Council, in common with those of the other Boards.<sup>1</sup>

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### IV. Connectional Relief

¶ 481, § 1. Connectional Relief for Conference Claimants is established that the Preachers and people of the stronger Annual Conferences may be united with those of the weaker Conferences in one connectional or general plan in order that, by such cooperation, a more equitable and general support may be secured for Retired Ministers and other Conference Claimants, especially for those in the more needy Conferences.

§ 2. Such Connectional Relief shall consist of (1)

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<sup>1</sup>See Appendix, ¶ 583.

The income from the Connectional Permanent Fund;  
(2) The income from all other sources the use of which is not otherwise designated and which is not required for the maintenance of the Board.

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## V. Administration of Connectional Relief

¶ 482, § 1. Moneys for Connectional Relief shall be distributed by the Board of Conference Claimants at its Annual Meeting, to the Annual Conferences severally and not to the individual claimant.

§ 2. The Board of Conference Claimants, in determining the Dividend for Connectional Relief, shall ascertain from the authorized reports of the Conference Stewards of the several Annual Conferences what Conferences are in need of Connectional Relief, and shall make the distribution to such Conferences according to their need as this shall appear from such reports.

§ 3. The remainder of the available funds shall be distributed among the other Conferences as the Board of Conference Claimants may determine to be wise and equitable in view of all the data in its possession.

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## VI. Reports

¶ 483. The Treasurer of the Board of Conference Claimants shall send to the Treasurer of the Annual Conference a draft for the Dividend for Connectional Relief, together with the last Annual Report of the Board, in which shall be shown the resources of the Board, the amount and distribution of its income, and such other information concerning

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the work of the Church in behalf of Conference Claimants as the Board may obtain.

NOTE.—For action of General Conference on Equalization Fund, see Appendix, ¶ 584.

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## CHAPTER XI

### BOARD OF THE EPWORTH LEAGUE

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#### I. Constitution

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¶ 484. For the purpose of promoting intelligent and vital piety among the young people of our Churches and Congregations, and of training them in works of mercy and help, there shall be an organization under the authority of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church and governed by the following Constitution:

#### CONSTITUTION

§ 1. ARTICLE I. *Name.* The title of this organization shall be "The Epworth League of the Methodist Episcopal Church."

§ 2. ARTICLE II. *Object.* The object of the League shall be to promote intelligent and vital piety in the young members and friends of the Church, to aid them in the attainment of purity of heart and constant growth in grace, and to train them in works of mercy and help.

§ 3. ARTICLE III. *Organization.* With a view of carrying out the objects of the League, the chapters and such other Young People's Societies as may be approved by the Quarterly Conferences shall be

organized into District Superintendents' District Leagues, and may also be formed into General Conference District Leagues. The District Superintendent shall be *ex officio* a member of the District Cabinet. Other groupings may be arranged for the advantage of the work, such as Annual Conference Leagues, State Leagues, and City Leagues, and whenever such organization shall be made it shall become thereby a regular Disciplinary organization within the provisions of this section. The Chapter shall be under the control of the Quarterly Conference and Pastor. Any Young People's Society may become an affiliated Chapter of the Epworth League, provided that it adopt the aims of the League, that its President and other Officers and its general plans of work are approved by the Pastor and Official Board or Quarterly Conference, and that it is enrolled at the Central Office.

§ 4. ARTICLE IV. *Government.* The management of the Board of the Epworth League shall be vested in a Board which shall consist of a Bishop, General Secretary, the Editor of the Epworth Herald, and one member from each General Conference District, and five members at large, three of whom shall be Laymen; the District representatives and members at large to be nominated by the Board of Bishops and elected by the General Conference.

The Bishop shall be President of the Epworth League and of the Board of the Epworth League. The Assistant Secretary of the Junior League and the elected field and departmental secretaries shall be advisory members of the Board. In case of a vacancy in the office of General Secretary during the quadrennium, the same shall be filled by the

Board of the Epworth League. Any vacancy occurring in the District membership of the Board of the Epworth League by a District member's removal from the District from which he was elected, or by any cause whatsoever, shall be filled by said Board from the Conference to which said member belonged. The Board of the Epworth League shall meet at least four times during each quadrennium.

§ 5. ARTICLE V. *Officers.* The Officers of the League shall be a President, a Vice-President, a General Secretary, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer. The President shall be chosen as hereinbefore provided. The Vice-President and Recording Secretary shall be chosen by the Board of the Epworth League from its own body. The General Secretary shall be elected by the General Conference, and shall be the executive officer of the League. He shall have charge of the correspondence, shall keep the records of the League, and may speak or provide speakers for Annual Conference anniversaries, and perform such other duties as the Board of the Epworth League may direct. The Editor of the *Epworth Herald* shall be elected by the General Conference, and shall perform such duties as relate to the editorial departments of Epworth League publications. The Treasurer shall be elected by the Board of the Epworth League. These Officers shall be elected quadrennially, and shall hold office until their successors are chosen. Vacancies in any of the above-mentioned positions, except the Presidency and the Editorship of the *Epworth Herald*, shall be filled by the Board of the Epworth League.

§ 6. ARTICLE VI. The Board of the Epworth League may elect, upon nomination by the General Secre-

tary, such field or departmental secretaries as may be deemed necessary.

§ 7. ARTICLE VII. *Finances.* The salary of the Editor of the *Epworth Herald* shall be fixed by the Book Committee and paid by the Book Concern. The salaries of the General Secretary and of other Secretaries and the administrative expenses, such as may be authorized by the Board of the Epworth League, shall be paid from contributions from the local Chapters and Churches and the profits on Epworth League publications and supplies and other resources.

§ 8. ARTICLE VIII. *Central Office.* The Central Office of the Epworth League shall be in Chicago, Illinois.

§ 9. ARTICLE IX. *Local Constitution.* The Constitution for Local Chapters shall be determined by the Board of the Epworth League; provided, however, that no enactment shall be made which shall in any manner conflict with this General Constitution.

§ 10. ARTICLE X. *By-Laws.* The Board of the Epworth League shall have power to enact such By-Laws for its own government as will not conflict with this Constitution.

§ 11. ARTICLE XI. *Amendments.* This Constitution shall be altered or amended only by the General Conference.

## II. Presidents of Local Chapters

¶ 485. The President of an Epworth League Chapter must be a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and shall be elected by the Chapter and confirmed by the Quarterly Conference, of which body

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he shall then become a member if approved by it for membership therein. It shall be his duty to present to the Quarterly Conference a report of his Chapter, together with such other information as the Conference may require and he may be able to give.

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### III. Directors of Social and Recreational Life

¶ 486. Whenever a Chapter of the Epworth League is organized and maintained the fourth Vice-President of the same, when confirmed and approved by the Quarterly Conference, may be designated as Director of Social and Recreational Life.

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### IV. District Superintendents

¶ 487. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendents when holding District or Quarterly Conferences to inquire into the condition of Epworth League Chapters and such other Young People's Societies as may be under the control of the Quarterly and District Conferences, and to ascertain whether they are conducting their affairs in harmony with the purpose and Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

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### V. Pastors

¶ 488, § 1. It shall be the duty of Pastors to organize and maintain, wherever practicable, Chapters of the Epworth League.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the Pastor to cause each Church under his charge to observe Epworth League Anniversary Day on the second Sunday in

May, or a Sunday as near thereto as possible. Whenever convenient the Anniversary shall be observed at the regular preaching hour.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the Pastor to appoint Superintendents of Junior Leagues when needed who shall continue in office until a successor is appointed.

§ 4. It shall be the duty of the Pastor to cause to be transmitted to the Central Office a complete list of the Epworth League officers of his Charge immediately after each election.

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## VI. Institutes

¶ 489, § 1. It shall be the duty of the Central Office to organize and maintain Institutes wherever practicable.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the Central Office to fix a standard curriculum and qualifications for the faculty of all Institutes both summer and midyear. All Committees or Cabinets arranging for Epworth League Institutes shall communicate or advise with the Central Office. Only such Institutes as meet the standards fixed by the Central Office shall receive its approval and be known as standard Institutes.

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## CHAPTER XII

### AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

See ¶ 581.

## CHAPTER XIII

BOARD OF TEMPERANCE, PROHIBITION, AND  
PUBLIC MORALS

¶ 490, § 1. In order to make more effectual the efforts of the Church to create a Christian public sentiment, which will relate the principles of the gospel of Christ to the economical, political, industrial and social relations of life, and which will crystallize opposition to all public violations of the moral law, the General Conference hereby authorizes the organization of a Board of Temperance, Prohibition, and Public Morals, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with headquarters at Washington, D. C., and the Board shall incorporate under this title and work under the following constitution:

§ 2. ARTICLE I. The object of this Board is to promote voluntary total abstinence from all intoxicants and narcotics, to enforce existing statutory laws and constitutional provisions that suppress the liquor traffic and to secure the speedy enactment of such legislation throughout the world.

§ 3. ARTICLE II. The management of this Society shall be vested in a Board of Managers consisting of a Bishop, who shall be the President, and twenty persons, at least two thirds of whom shall reside in the territory near or convenient of access to Washington, D. C., and ten advisory members. The Board shall be nominated by the Board of Bishops and elected by the General Conference. The Board of Managers shall meet annually, and at such annual

meetings shall fill vacancies in the Board caused by death, resignation, or otherwise, and shall enact such By-Laws and shall employ such representatives in its work as it may deem necessary.

§ 4. ARTICLE III. The officers of the Board shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and General Secretary. The President shall be a Bishop, chosen by the Board of Bishops, and all other officers shall be elected quadrennially by the Board of Managers at its first meeting, which shall be held within three months of the adjournment of the General Conference. The General Secretary shall be elected quadrennially by the Board of Managers and shall be *ex officio* a member of the Board and its executive officer. This Board shall have power at its annual meetings, on the nomination of the General Secretary, to fill any vacancies in these offices other than that of the President, and to employ such additional field and office representatives as it shall need. An Executive Committee consisting of seven members of the Board of Managers shall be elected by the Board and shall have power in the interim to fill any vacancies in the field and office representatives, and to transact such business as is necessary in the interim of the annual meetings and report its work for confirmation annually.

§ 5. ARTICLE IV. It shall be the duty of the Board of Managers to represent the Church officially in every wise movement for the promotion of voluntary personal total abstinence and the securing of legal prohibition of the liquor traffic; to promote public morals; to publish, approve and distribute literature on the liquor traffic, the use of narcotics and manufactured articles containing a large per cent of alco-

holic liquors; to devise such plans and make such advices as shall enable the Church most successfully to compass the overthrow of that great foe of society, the legalized liquor traffic; to make such use of the money paid into its treasury as the work demands, and to publish an annual report of its work and to make a quadrennial report to the General Conference.

§ 6. ARTICLE V. Each Annual Conference shall form within its bounds a Conference Board of Temperance, Prohibition, and Public Morals, which shall elect its own officers who shall be subordinate to the General Board and in harmony with its plans shall promote reforms within said Conference boundaries. It shall elect a Conference Committee in each District consisting of the District Superintendent, and two others nominated by the District Superintendent and elected by the Conference. It shall be the duty of the District Committee to cooperate with all reliable reform organizations and to give all possible aid in movements for human betterment. At each session of the Annual Conference an anniversary or mass meeting shall be held, if practicable, in the interest of public morals under the direction of the General Board of the Church.

§ 7. ARTICLE VI. It shall be the duty of Pastors, with the aid of their Committee on Temperance, to present annually to each congregation the cause of temperance and to ask a public collection and contribution for the support of the same, which collections and contributions shall be paid over to the Treasurer of the Board of Temperance and reported to the Annual Conference in the same manner that other benevolences are reported. It shall be the duty

of Pastors to see that each Sunday School is organized into a Board of Temperance, that temperance instruction be given, and that, as far as possible, the members of the School and the young people within the reach of the Church shall be pledged to total abstinence. The District Superintendent, at the fourth Quarterly Conference, shall inquire if the requirements of this article have been observed.

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## CHAPTER XIV

### GENERAL DEACONESS BOARD

#### I. General Deaconess Board

¶ 491. *Incorporation and Functions.* § 1. For the promotion of Deaconess work throughout the Church there shall be a Board known as the General Deaconess Board of the Methodist Episcopal Church. This Board, duly incorporated under the laws of the State of New York and having its headquarters in the city of Buffalo, shall have general supervision of all Deaconess work in the Church and control of all the Deaconesses. The General Deaconess Board shall be composed of twenty-four members, and the Corresponding Secretary, who shall be a member *ex officio*, without vote. The elective members, nominated by the Board of Bishops and elected by the General Conference, shall be three Bishops, three Deaconesses, three representatives at large and one representative from each General Conference District. Any vacancy in the Board which may occur

during the quadrennium shall be filled by the Board of Bishops.

§ 2. The General Deaconess Board, on request of the Conference Deaconess Board and the Annual Conference, shall have power to authorize the establishment of a Deaconess institution. Should the proposed institution be a school, authorization shall be given only after approval by the Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The General Deaconess Board shall satisfy itself that there is need of the proposed institution in the locality designated; that the site selected is suitable for the work intended; that it would not be likely to affect unfavorably any existing institution; that there is good prospect of its adequate support; and that its property, of whatever form, is not unduly encumbered.

§ 3. The General Deaconess Board shall establish a standard for entrance into training schools, provided it shall be equivalent to a high-school course, and shall prescribe the Courses of Study for Deaconesses. It shall have authority to determine and settle all questions arising between institutions and individuals. It shall seek to promote general interest in this work, approve rules for the government of both institutions and Deaconesses, prescribe a distinctive garb for Deaconesses, determine the minimum allowance for active Deaconesses, fix amount of pension for retired Deaconesses and perform such other service as the work may demand.

¶ 492. *Officers.* § 1. The Board shall elect its own officers.

§ 2. The Board shall elect quadrennially a Corresponding Secretary who shall be its executive officer.

§ 3. A vacancy in any office may be filled temporarily by the Executive Committee.

¶ 493. *Maintenance.* § 1. It shall be the duty of every Pastor to see that his Charge makes an annual contribution for the work of the General Deaconess Board.

§ 2. The means and method of securing and paying this contribution shall be in harmony with the plans of the Church for its Benevolent Boards.

## II. Conference Deaconess Board

¶ 494. § 1. In each Annual Conference in which there is Deaconess Work there shall be a Conference Deaconess Board consisting of all the licensed Deaconesses within the Conference, the District Superintendents and four other members of the Conference, and two representatives from the Board of Managers of each Deaconess institution within the bounds of the Conference. The elective members shall be nominated by the District Superintendents and elected by the Annual Conference.

§ 2. The Conference Deaconess Board shall have the oversight of all Deaconess work within the bounds of the Conference. It shall have authority to receive probationers and continue them as probationers; to license Deaconesses and approve annually their standing as Deaconesses; to select associate Deaconesses annually, and to transfer Deaconesses on recommendation of the institutions or forms of administration concerned, the transfer to be consummated only when reported to the General Deaconess Board. It shall encourage and promote Deaconess work within the bounds of the Conference. It shall see that all Charters, Deeds and other conveyances of the prop-

erty of Deaconess institutions conform strictly to the Discipline, and to the laws, usages, and forms of the State or Territory within which such property is situated. It shall see that all property is well insured.

§ 3. The officers of the Conference Deaconess Board shall be a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, and a Treasurer; each to be elected annually and to assume office with the adjournment of the annual meeting. The President shall preside at all meetings. He shall secure information concerning appointments, certify to the General Deaconess Board answers to the membership questions, and perform such other duties as his office may demand. The duties of the other officers shall be such as are usually performed by such officers.

§ 4. There shall be an Executive Committee composed of the officers of the Board, and others if the needs of the work should require. The Executive Committee shall have power to act in the interim of the annual meetings of the Conference Board.

§ 5. The Conference Deaconess Board shall meet annually, preferably at the seat of the Annual Conference, or at a time and place to be fixed by the Conference Deaconess Board in consultation with the General Deaconess Board.

Order of business at annual meeting:

Devotional Service.

Roll Call.

Organization.

Appointment of Committees.

Membership Questions.

1. Has the standing of each Deaconess been approved?

2. Who have been received by Transfer and from what Conference?

3. Who have been transferred, and to what Conference?

4. Who have been received as probationers?

5. Who are the probationers?

a. In studies of the first year.

b. In studies of the second year.

6. Who have been licensed as Deaconesses?

7. Who have been consecrated as Deaconesses?

8. Who have been elected Associate Deaconesses?

9. Who have been reelected Associate Deaconesses?

10. Who have been readmitted?

11. Who are the retired Deaconesses?

12. Who have been granted leave of absence?

13. Who have received honorable discharge?

14. Who have been discontinued?

15. Who have withdrawn?

16. Who have been suspended?

17. Who have been expelled?

18. Who have died?

19. Where are the Deaconesses appointed?

(The appointments should be read by the Bishop.)

Reports of Committees.

General Business.

Adjournment.

§ 6. The appointment of Deaconesses to their respective fields of labor, or to an institution, shall be made by the Bishop presiding at the Annual Conference upon recommendation of the officers of the form of administration or other organization with which they serve.

§ 7. The minutes of the Conference Deaconess

Board shall be reported to the Annual Conference for publication in the Conference minutes.

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### III. District Supervision

¶ 495. The District Superintendent shall include the Deaconess work on his District as under his care and supervision. He shall make such report and suggestion to the Conference and to the Conference Deaconess Board and to the form of administration concerned as he may deem advisable.

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### IV. Deaconess Institutions

¶ 496, § 1. A Deaconess institution is a home, school, hospital, or other organization, permanently established, administered by Deaconesses or maintained for the care or education of Deaconesses, or for the promotion of the Deaconess work of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

§ 2. No institution for the prosecution or maintenance of any form of Deaconess work shall be recognized as a Deaconess institution of the Methodist Episcopal Church until application for recognition has been made by the Conference Deaconess Board and by the Annual Conference, and authorization given by the General Deaconess Board.

§ 3. All property for Deaconess institutions shall be held in trust for the Methodist Episcopal Church, and this may be done by a corporate body authorized by the General Conference, or by a local Board of Trustees. In whatever name property is held, all deeds of conveyance shall contain the clause, "To be held in trust for the Methodist Episcopal Church."

§ 4. Training schools duly recognized as Deaconess institutions of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall be as free to secure students from the whole Church as are other educational institutions.

§ 5. Each Deaconess institution shall report to the Conference Deaconess Board before the annual meeting such information as may be requested by either the Conference Deaconess Board or the General Deaconess Board.

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### **V. Deaconess Work in Mission Conferences**

¶ 497, § 1. In Missions and Mission Conferences in the United States the form and method of deaconess administration shall be according to such plan as may be arranged by the General Deaconess Board.

§ 2. The relation of each Deaconess assigned to work in Missions and Mission Conferences in the United States shall continue in the form of administration and Conference Deaconess Board from which her assignment is made; to which shall be sent annually a report of her standing.

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### **VI. Deaconess Work in Europe**

¶ 498, § 1. All Deaconess work in Europe shall be under the general supervision of the General Deaconess Board and the interested Mission Board.

§ 2. In those parts of Europe where the Deaconess work is legally incorporated with an inspector appointed by the Annual Conference, any of the fore-

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going provisions not compatible with the articles of such legal corporation shall be inoperative.

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### VII. Deaconess Work in Foreign Mission Fields

¶ 499, § 1. All Deaconess work in foreign mission fields shall be under the general supervision of the General Deaconess Board and the interested Foreign Mission Board.

§ 2. For the administration of Deaconess work in foreign mission fields there shall be a Commission of Deaconess Work composed of a Bishop and four other members—two at large and two from the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

§ 3. The Commission of Deaconess Work shall be named by the Resident Bishop having jurisdiction in the field where the Deaconess work is conducted.

§ 4. Any vacancy in the Commission on Deaconess Work may be filled by the Bishop having jurisdiction in the field where the vacancy occurs.

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## CHAPTER XV

### BOARD OF HOSPITALS AND HOMES

¶ 500. ARTICLE I. *Organization and Purpose.* For the promotion and general supervision of an advisory character for all hospitals, homes, or other organizations and institutions for the care of the sick, incurables, and other dependents, there shall be a board known as the Board of Hospitals and Homes,

incorporated according to law and subject to the control of the General Conference.

¶ 501. ARTICLE II. *Affiliation.* All institutions or organizations seeking to affiliate with this Board must have the indorsement of the Annual Conference within whose bounds they are located. Institutions or organizations of similar character operating under other boards seeking affiliation with this Board, must secure the consent of their Board, the recommendation of the Annual Conference within whose bounds they operate and the approval of this Board.

¶ 502. ARTICLE III. *Government.* The management shall vest in a Board which shall consist of eighteen members, including three Bishops appointed by the Board of Bishops, one of whom shall be President of the board. The additional members shall be nominated by the Board of Bishops and elected by the General Conference. The term of office shall be one quadrennium.

¶ 503. ARTICLE IV. *Officers.* § 1. The officers of the Board shall be a President, Vice-President, Corresponding Secretary, who shall be *ex officio* member of the Board, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and such other officers and agents as the Board from time to time may determine.

§ 2. The Corresponding Secretary shall be elected quadrennially to the Board subject to confirmation by the Board of Bishops. He shall in all his official conduct be subject to the authority and control of the Board, by which his salary shall be fixed and paid. His time shall be employed in promoting its general interests by traveling or otherwise.

§ 3. Any vacancy in this office, caused by death,

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resignation, or otherwise, shall be filled by the Board until the next succeeding General Conference.

¶ 504. ARTICLE V. *Meetings.* § 1. The Board shall hold an annual meeting at such time and place as it may determine and such special meetings as may from time to time be deemed necessary by the Executive Committee. Nine members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

§ 2. The Board shall also appoint an Executive Committee of such number as it may determine and may commit to said Committee such business or confer upon it such powers as are not inconsistent with the Charter or this Constitution.

¶ 505. ARTICLE VI. *Activities.* § 1. This Board shall sustain an advisory relation to, but shall not provide direct supervision over institutions or organizations within its jurisdiction except when specifically requested.

§ 2. It may make surveys, disseminate information, suggest plans for securing funds, maintain a bureau for the purpose of securing experts in all lines of work, provide architectural data, and render assistance in the promotion and establishment of new institutions. It shall encourage and assist all institutions within its jurisdiction in attaining the highest possible standards. This Board may administer any and all funds vested in it for general or specific purposes and shall have power in cooperation with the other benevolent boards, and in the same manner, to secure special funds to carry out and execute its purposes.

¶ 506. ARTICLE VII. *Finance.* At the annual meeting the Board shall prepare a budget of administrative expense of the Board, and shall submit the same

to the Council of Boards of Benevolence, for its consideration in determining what shall be the askings for hospitals and homes.

¶ 507. ARTICLE VIII. *By-Laws.* This Board may from time to time adopt by-laws for the regulation of its affairs not inconsistent with the Charter or Constitution.

¶ 508. ARTICLE IX. *Amendments.* This Constitution may be amended by the Board with the approval of the General Conference.

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## CHAPTER XVI

### CHARTERED FUND

¶ 509, § 1. To make further provision for distressed Effective Ministers, for the families of Effective Ministers, for Retired Ministers, and for the widows and orphans of Ministers, there shall be a Chartered Fund, to be supported by voluntary contributions; the principal of which shall be funded under the direction of Trustees chosen by the General Conference, and the interest applied under the direction of the General Conference, according to the following regulations, namely:

§ 2. The District Superintendents and the Pastors shall be collectors and receivers of subscriptions for this Fund.

§ 3. The money shall be sent to the General Publishing Agents, who shall pay it to the Trustees of the Fund. Otherwise it shall be brought to the ensuing Annual Conference.

§ 4. The interest shall be divided into as many

equal parts as there are Annual Conferences, and each Annual Conference shall have authority to draw one of these parts out of the Fund; and if one or more Conferences shall draw out of this Fund in any given year less than one of these parts, then in such case or cases the other Annual Conferences, held in the same year, shall have authority, if they judge it necessary, to draw out of the Fund such surplus of the interest as has not been applied by the former Conferences. The Bishops shall bring the necessary information of the state of the interest of the Fund, respecting the year in question, from Conference to Conference.

§ 5. All drafts on the Chartered Fund shall be made on the Treasurer of the said Fund, by order of the Annual Conference, signed by the President and countersigned by the Secretary of the said Conference.

§ 6. The money subscribed for the Chartered Fund may be lodged, on proper securities, in the respective States in which it has been subscribed under the direction of deputies living in such States respectively; provided, that such securities be accepted and such deputies be appointed as shall be approved by the Trustees in Philadelphia, and the stock in which it is proposed to invest the money be sufficiently productive to give satisfaction to the Trustees.

¶ 510. The Board of Trustees shall have power to fill any vacancy or vacancies that may occur by death, resignation, or otherwise, subject, however, to the approval of the first General Conference that may be held after such vacancy or vacancies shall have occurred.

## **PART VIII**

# **BOUNDARIES**

- I. DETERMINING BOUNDARIES**
- II. BOUNDARIES OF ANNUAL CONFERENCES**
- III. BOUNDARIES OF MISSION CONFERENCES  
AND MISSIONS**
- IV. ENABLING ACTS**
- V. CENTRAL MISSION CONFERENCES**

## CHAPTER I

### DETERMINING BOUNDARIES<sup>1</sup>

¶ 511. The General Conference shall appoint a Committee on Boundaries, consisting of two members, one Minister and one Layman, from each Annual Conference, to be nominated by the delegations severally, over which one of the Bishops shall preside, of which one of the General Conference Secretaries shall be the Secretary, and of which Committee thirty-five shall be a quorum. All matters pertaining to Conference lines shall be referred to this Committee; and when the Committee shall have fixed the boundaries of all the Conferences, it shall submit its report to the General Conference, which shall immediately act upon the same as a whole without amendment and without debate; provided, however, that in accordance with the provisions of ¶ 95, § 6, a Central Mission Conference may fix the boundaries of the Annual Conferences within its bounds, the General Conference first having determined the number of Annual Conferences that may be allowed in that field.

¶ 512, § 1. Any two or more Conferences which may be mutually interested in the readjustment of their common boundaries, may at any time raise a Joint Commission, consisting of five members from each Conference directly interested; and the decision

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<sup>1</sup> *Resolved*, That the Chairman and Secretary of the Committee on Boundaries have authority to edit the final report of the Committee, and shall be the final authority in any question as to what the action of the Committee on Boundaries has been.

of such Joint Commission, in which it shall be necessary for a majority of the five members representing each of said Conferences to concur, when it shall be approved by the Bishop or Bishops who may preside at these Conferences at their sessions next ensuing, shall be final. The boundaries thus established shall be reported immediately by the Chairman of the Joint Commission to the Secretary of the General Conference, together with a copy of the proceedings of the Joint Commission: provided, however, that the Conference desiring the readjustment of their common boundaries, may bring the matter directly to the General Conference by means of memorials concerning such readjustment.

§ 2. No division or absorption of Annual Conferences or Mission Conferences, or the organization of new Annual Conferences, out of the territory already occupied by organized Conferences, shall be effected until the General Conference shall have approved such division, absorption, or organization; except in the case of Central Mission Conferences as provided for in ¶ 95, § 6.

¶ 513. No petition, resolution, or memorial involving readjustment of boundaries of Annual Conferences, or Mission Conferences, or the division or absorption of Annual Conferences or Mission Conferences, or the organization of new Annual Conferences or Mission Conferences out of the territory already occupied by organized Conferences, shall be entertained by the Committee on Boundaries until legal notice<sup>1</sup> shall have been given by the Secretary of the Annual Conference or Conferences, the Mission Conference or Missions desiring such change, or by a ma-

<sup>1</sup> See Appendix, ¶ 611.

jority of the District Superintendents and Mission Superintendents thereof to the Secretaries of all the Annual Conferences and Mission Conferences affected thereby; provided, however, that, upon a petition of a majority of the delegates representing the Annual Conference or Conferences to be affected thereby, the Committee on Boundaries may adjust the matters involved in such petition, subject to the approval of all the Annual and Mission Conferences named in such petition at their annual sessions next succeeding the General Conference.

## CHAPTER II

### BOUNDARIES OF ANNUAL CONFERENCES

#### I. United States and Territories

¶ 514, § 1. ALABAMA CONFERENCE shall include the work among the white people in the State of Alabama and in that part of the State of Florida west of the Apalachicola River; and also the work among the white people within the territory of the Upper Mississippi Conference.

§ 2. ATLANTA CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in that part of the State of Georgia not included in the Savannah Conference.

§ 3. BALTIMORE CONFERENCE shall include the District of Columbia, the western shore of Maryland (except that part of Garrett County lying west of the dividing ridge of the Allegheny Mountains, Grantsville, Swanton, Bayard, Blaine, and Gormanian), so much of the State of Pennsylvania as lies within

## ¶ 514 BOUNDARIES OF ANNUAL CONFERENCES

Hancock, Flintstone, Union Grove, and Hyndman Circuits; the counties of Jefferson, Berkeley, Morgan, Hampshire, Mineral, and Grant in the State of West Virginia; and that part of the State of Virginia lying between the Wilmington and West Virginia Conferences.

§ 4. BLUE RIDGE-ATLANTIC CONFERENCE shall include the work among the white people in the State of North Carolina, and in the counties of Mecklenburg, Brunswick, Greenville, Southampton, Nansemond, Norfolk, and Princess Anne in the State of Virginia; and in the counties of Oconee, Pickens, Greenville, Spartanburg, York, Chester, Union, Anderson, Laurens, Abbeville, Newberry, and Fairfield in the State of South Carolina.

§ 5. CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE shall include all that part of the State of California and all that part of the State of Nevada lying north of the northern boundary of the Southern California Conference.

§ 6. CALIFORNIA GERMAN CONFERENCE shall include the German work within the State of California.

§ 7. CENTRAL ALABAMA CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the State of Alabama and in that part of Florida west of the Apalachicola River.

§ 8. CENTRAL GERMAN CONFERENCE shall comprise the German work within the States of Ohio, West Virginia, Michigan, and Indiana except those appointments which belong at present to the Chicago German Conference; also the German work in western Pennsylvania, and in the Southern States not included in the East German, Saint Louis German, and Southern German Conferences, exclusive of Emmanuel Church, Williams County, Ohio.

§ 9. CENTRAL ILLINOIS CONFERENCE shall embrace

that part of the State of Illinois north of the Illinois Conference and south of the following lines, namely: beginning on the Mississippi River at Albany; thence southeasterly to the northwest corner of Bureau County; thence east to the southwest corner of Lee County; thence south to the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railway crossing of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway; thence along said railway to Bureau Junction; thence to the Illinois River; thence up said river to the mouth of the Kankakee River (leaving Albany, Leon, and Ottawa in the Rock River Conference, and Bureau Junction in the Central Illinois Conference); thence up the Kankakee River to a point directly west of the north line of Kankakee County; thence east to the Indiana line.

§ 10. CENTRAL MISSOURI CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the States of Missouri, Iowa, and that part of the State of Illinois lying west of the following line: Beginning at the city of Cairo, and running north along the Illinois Central Railroad to the city of Mendota, and including all the towns on said line of railroad; thence north to the Wisconsin State line, and thence west along said State line to the Mississippi River.

§ 11. CENTRAL NEW YORK CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the west by the west lines of the towns of Williamson, Marion and Palmyra, in Wayne County, and of the towns of Farmington and Canandaigua, in Ontario County, and of Yates and Schuyler Counties, and of the towns of Hornby and Canton, in Steuben County; and in the State of Pennsylvania by the railroad running from Lawrenceville to Blossburg, including Mansfield and Blossburg Charges; on the south by Central Pennsylvania Conference; on the

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east by Wyoming and Northern New York Conferences; on the north by Northern New York Conference and Lake Ontario.

§ 12. CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE shall be bounded as follows: On the south by the State line from the Susquehanna River to the west boundary of Bedford County, excepting so much of the State of Pennsylvania as is included in the Baltimore Conference, on the west by the west line of the counties of Bedford, Blair, that part of Cambria County not included in the Pittsburgh Conference, namely: Patton, Bakerton, and Barnesboro, including Cherry Tree and Glen Campbell and Smithport in Indiana County, Clearfield County, north to Saint Mary's; excepting so much of Clearfield County as is embraced in the Erie Conference; on the north by a line extending from Saint Mary's eastward to Emporium, including Keating Summit Circuit; thence by the southern boundary of Potter and Tioga Counties, including Austin, Costello, Wharton Circuit, Cross Fork, Hammersley Fort Circuit, Morris, Blackwell, and Liberty Valley Circuits; thence through Sullivan County north of Laporte to the west line of Wyoming County; thence on the east by the present limits of the Wyoming Conference, being the east line of Sullivan County, to the north line of Columbia County; thence a line southeasterly through Luzerne County to the north line of the Philadelphia Conference, near White Haven; thence on the south by the northern line of Carbon, Schuylkill, and Dauphin Counties to the Susquehanna River, including Hickory Run, Weatherly, Beaver Meadows, and Ashland; and thence by the Susquehanna River to the place of beginning, including Harrisburg and that additional part of Dauphin

County east from the city limits on the north to and including Paxtonia, thence southward to Rutherford, thence west to the city of Harrisburg.

§ 13. CENTRAL SWEDISH CONFERENCE shall include all the Swedish work within the States of Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio, the city of Racine, in the State of Wisconsin, and also the Swedish work in the State of New York west of the Genesee River, and in the State of Pennsylvania west of the Susquehanna River.

§ 14. CENTRAL TENNESSEE CONFERENCE shall include the work among the white people in all that part of the State of Tennessee west of and excluding the counties of Marion, Grundy, Van Buren, Cumberland, and Fentress.

15. CHICAGO GERMAN CONFERENCE shall include the German work in the State of Wisconsin, except those appointments along the Mississippi River, and in that part of the State of Illinois north of an east and west line passing along the north line of the city of Bloomington, excepting the territory now in the Saint Louis German Conference, and east of a north and south line passing through the city of Freeport; and in that part of the State of Indiana west of the line between the Counties of Saint Joseph and Elkhart, and north of the line between Stark and Pulaski Counties. It shall also include Danville, in the State of Illinois, and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

§ 16. COLORADO CONFERENCE shall include the State of Colorado and Chama in New Mexico.

§ 17. COLUMBIA RIVER CONFERENCE shall include the counties of Dechutes, Wasco, Umatilla, Crook, Morrow, Gilliam, Sherman, Wheeler, Hood River, and Jefferson in the State of Oregon; and all of the Coun-

ties in the State of Washington east of the summit of the Cascade Mountains; and in the State of Idaho, the counties of Shoshone, Kootnai, Beneway, Bonner, Boundary, Latah, Nez Perce, Clearwater, Lewis, and all of Idaho County lying north of a line running parallel with the Salmon River ten miles south of said river.

§ 18. DAKOTA CONFERENCE shall include the State of South Dakota.

§ 19. DELAWARE CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the States of Delaware, New Jersey, and New York, excepting the colored work in the Boroughs of the Bronx and Manhattan in the City of New York; all of the eastern shore of Virginia, and all of the States of Maryland and Pennsylvania not included in the Washington Conference.

§ 20. DES MOINES CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Iowa west and south of the following lines: Beginning at the southeast corner of Wayne County; thence north to the south line of Marshall County, leaving Knoxville in the Iowa Conference and the Monroe Charge in the Des Moines Conference; thence west to the southeast corner of Story County; thence north to the northeast corner of Story County; thence west to the northeast corner of Crawford County; thence south to the north line of township eighty-three; thence west to the east line of Monona County; thence south and west on the line of Monona County to the Missouri River.

§ 21. DETROIT CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Michigan in the Lower Peninsula east of the principal meridian as far north as the southern boundary of Roscommon County; thence west to the southwest corner of said County; thence north to

the southern boundary of Charlevoix County; thence east to the southeast corner of Charlevoix County; thence north to the Straits of Mackinaw including Mackinaw City. It shall also include the Upper Peninsula.

§ 22. EAST GERMAN CONFERENCE shall embrace all the German work east of the Allegheny Mountains, including all the German work in the State of New York.

§ 23. EAST MAINE CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Maine not included in the Maine Conference.

§ 24. EAST TENNESSEE CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in that part of the State of Tennessee which is not in the Tennessee Conference; in that part of the State of Virginia west of and including the counties of Carroll, Floyd, Montgomery, and Giles; and in the counties of Mercer, Wyoming, McDowell, and Raleigh in the State of West Virginia; and the counties of Whitley, Knox, Bell, and Harlan in the State of Kentucky.

§ 25. EASTERN SWEDISH CONFERENCE shall include all the Swedish work in the six New England States, the States of New Jersey and Delaware, and the territory included in the New York, New York East, and Philadelphia Conferences.

§ 26. ERIE CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the north by Lake Erie; on the east by a line commencing at the mouth of Cattaraugus Creek; thence up said creek to Gowanda, leaving said town in the Genesee Conference; thence to the Allegheny River at the mouth of the Tunungwant Creek; thence up said creek southward, excluding the city of Bradford on said creek to the ridge dividing between the waters

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of Clarion and Sinnemahoning Creeks; thence southward to Mahoning Creek; thence down said creek to the Allegheny River, excluding the Milton Society, but including Valier and the Horatio Society, in the Grace Church, Punxsutawney Charge, and Hamilton in the Valier Charge, the Putneyville Society in the Putneyville Circuit, and that portion of the borough of Punxsutawney lying south and east of Mahoning Creek; thence across said river in a northwesterly direction to the southwest corner of Lawrence County, including Wampum; thence along the Ohio State line to the place of beginning, excluding Orangeville Church.

§ 27. FLORIDA CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the State of Florida except that part lying west of the Apalachicola River, and that part south of parallel twenty-nine.

§ 28. GENESEE CONFERENCE shall include all that part of the State of New York lying west of the Central New York Conference except that part of Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties which is now included in the Erie Conference. It shall also include Gowanda and Corning, in the State of New York, and so much of Tioga County, including Tioga Charge, in the State of Pennsylvania, as is not embraced in the Central New York Conference; also so much of Potter County, in the State of Pennsylvania, as is not included in Central Pennsylvania Conference; also including so much of McKean County, in the State of Pennsylvania, as is embraced in the Olean District, including the city of Bradford; also the Norwegian and Danish work in the city of Buffalo.

§ 29. GEORGIA CONFERENCE shall include work among

the white people in the State of Georgia and the "Copperhill Basin" in the State of Tennessee.

§ 30. GULF CONFERENCE shall include the white English, Italian, and French-speaking work in the State of Louisiana; also that portion of the State of Texas separated from the Oklahoma Conference by a line beginning at the City of Brownsville, Texas, running northwest along the Rio Grande River to Devil's River, a point on the Southern Pacific Railroad; thence east along the Southern Pacific Railroad to San Antonio; thence northeast along the International & Great Northern Railroad through the city of Austin to Hearne; thence north along the Houston & Texas Railroad to Ennis; thence northeast along the Texas Midland and the Frisco Railroads to the Red River, all intermediate points to be in the Gulf Conference; also the work among the white people within the territory of the Mississippi Conference.

§ 31. HOLSTON CONFERENCE shall include the work among the white people in that part of the State of Tennessee not included in the Central Tennessee Conference and the "Copperhill Basin" assigned to the Georgia Conference; and including that part of the State of Virginia embraced between the West Virginia and Blue Ridge-Atlantic Conferences.

§ 32. IDAHO CONFERENCE shall include all the State of Idaho not embraced in the Columbia River Conference, together with the following named territory of the State of Oregon; namely, the counties of Baker, Malheur, Harney, Grant, Wallowa, and Union.

§ 33. ILLINOIS CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Illinois not within the Southern Illinois Conference, south of the following line, namely: beginning at Warsaw, on the Mississippi River,

thence to Vermont; thence to the mouth of the Spoon River; thence up the Illinois River to the northwest corner of Mason County; thence to the junction of the Illinois Central and the Chicago & Alton Railroads; thence to the southwest corner of Iroquois County; thence east to the State of Indiana, leaving Bentley, Vermont, Manito, Mackinaw Circuit, and Normal in the Central Illinois Conference, and Warsaw and Bloomington in the Illinois Conference.

§ 34. INDIANA CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the north and east by a line beginning where the National Road intersects the west line of the State of Indiana; thence along said road to Terre Haute; thence along the Vandalia Railroad to Belmont Street, West Indianapolis, including Locust Street Charge in Greencastle and Washington Street Church in Indianapolis; thence north to Michigan Street, thence east to the Belt Railroad; thence north and east along said railroad to a point due west of Ninth Street; thence east to the Lafayette & Indianapolis Railroad; thence north on said railroad to the Michigan Road, excluding Lowell Heights and River Park Churches, South Bend, Indiana; thence on said road to the north line of Marion County; thence east on said county line to the northeast corner of said county; thence south on the east line of said county to the National Road; thence east on said road to State line; on the east by the State of Ohio, including Elizabeth, Hamilton County, Ohio; on the south by the Ohio River, and on the west by the State of Illinois.

§ 35. IOWA CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the east by the Mississippi River; on the south by the Missouri State line; on the west and north by a line

commencing at the southwest corner of Appanoose County; thence north to Marshall County, leaving Knoxville in the Iowa Conference and Monroe in the Des Moines Conference; thence on the south line of Marshall County due east to the Iowa River; thence down said river to Iowa City; thence on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad to Davenport, leaving Davenport and Iowa City in the Upper Iowa Conference, and all intermediate towns in the Iowa Conference.

§ 36. KANSAS CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Kansas lying east of a line traversing the west boundary of Chautauqua, Elk, and Greenwood Counties; thence along the south and west boundary of Chase County to the south and west border of Morris County to the south boundary of Dickinson County; thence west to the sixth principal meridian; thence north to the Nebraska State line; excepting the Solomon City Circuit lying east of said line.

§ 37. KENTUCKY CONFERENCE shall include the work among the white people in the State of Kentucky.

§ 38. LEXINGTON CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the States of Kentucky, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin and Minnesota, excepting so much of the State of Illinois as is included in the Central Missouri Conference, and excepting Whitley, Knox, Bell, and Harlan Counties in Kentucky.

§ 39. LINCOLN CONFERENCE shall include all the work among the colored people in the States of Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Colorado.

§ 40. LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the State of Arkansas.

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§ 41. LOUISIANA CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the State of Louisiana.

§ 42. MAINE CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Maine west of the Kennebec River, from its mouth to the great bend below Skowhegan, and of a line running thence north to the State line; including Skowhegan and Augusta and that part of the town of Winslow north of Sebesticook River, and also that part of New Hampshire east of the White Hills and north of the waters of Ossipee Lake, and the towns of Gorham and Berlin.

§ 43. MICHIGAN CONFERENCE shall include the State of Michigan in the lower peninsula west of the principal meridian as far north as the southern boundary of Roscommon County; thence west to the southwest corner of said county; thence north to the southern boundary of Charlevoix County; thence east to the southeast corner of said county; thence north to the Straits of Mackinaw.

§ 44. MINNESOTA CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Minnesota lying south of the following line: Beginning at the eastern boundary of the State at the northeast corner of Washington County; thence running west to the northwest corner of said county; thence south to the northeast corner of Ramsey County; thence following the line of Ramsey County to where it strikes the east line of Hennepin County; thence following the east and south lines of Hennepin County to the point where the Hastings & Dakota Railroad crosses the line of said county; thence following the line of the Hastings & Dakota Railroad to Ortinville; all towns on the Hastings & Dakota Railroad to be in the Northern Minnesota Conference.

§ 45. MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE shall include all the colored work in the State of Mississippi south of a line beginning at the northeast corner of Kemper County, and running along the northern border of said county, and of the counties of Neshoba, Leake, Madison, Yazoo, Sharkey, and Issaquena to the Mississippi River.

§ 46. MISSOURI CONFERENCE shall include so much of the State of Missouri as lies north of the Missouri River.

§ 47. MONTANA CONFERENCE shall include all that part of the State of Montana not included in the North Montana Conference, and that part of North Dakota which lies between the Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers.

§ 48. NEBRASKA CONFERENCE shall include all the State of Nebraska except that contained in the Northwest Nebraska Conference.

§ 49. NEWARK CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of New Jersey not included in the New Jersey Conference, with the Borough of Richmond, City of New York, in the State of New York, and such portions of Rockland, Orange, and Sullivan Counties, in the State of New York, as lie south and west of a line extending from Tompkins Cove, on the Hudson River, intersecting the New Jersey State line at a point south of Sloatsburg; thence along said State line to the Wallkill River; thence due north, intersecting the Erie Railroad at a point west of Middletown; thence in a northwesterly direction to a point where the Port Jervis & Monticello Railroad crosses the northern line of Forestburg township, in Sullivan County; thence southwest to a point on the Delaware River below Lackawaxen, in Pennsylvania; also such

portions of Pike and Monroe Counties, in the State of Pennsylvania, as lie north of the Philadelphia Conference and east of the Wyoming Conference, the same being now included in the Matamoras, Milford, Dingmans, and Coolbaugh Charges.

§ 50. NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE shall include all the State of Massachusetts east of the Green Mountains not included in the New Hampshire and the New England Southern Conferences.

§ 51. NEW ENGLAND SOUTHERN CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Connecticut lying east of the Connecticut River, the State of Rhode Island, with the town of Blackstone, in Massachusetts, and that part of the State of Massachusetts south of the towns of Wrentham, Walpole, Dedham, Milton, and Quincy.

§ 52. NEW HAMPSHIRE CONFERENCE shall include the State of New Hampshire, except that part within the Maine Conference; also that part of the State of Massachusetts northeast of the Merrimac River except that part of Lowell north of the Merrimac.

§ 53. NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of New Jersey lying south of the following line, namely: Commencing at Raritan Bay, thence up said bay and river to New Brunswick, at a point opposite the easterly boundary of the Borough of Highland Park, thence along the easterly, northerly, and westerly boundaries of said borough respectively, to the Raritan River, thence along the Raritan River to the westerly limits of the city of New Brunswick, thence southwest in a straight line to Lambertville on the Delaware River, including the City of New Brunswick, the Borough of Highland Park, and Lambertville Station.

§ 54. NEW MEXICO CONFERENCE shall include the State of New Mexico excepting Chama; also the county of El Paso in the State of Texas and the State of Chihuahua in the republic of Mexico; it shall also include the work among the Spanish-speaking people in the States of New Mexico, Arizona, east of meridian 112 degrees west longitude, and Colorado, El Paso, Texas, and the States of Chihuahua and Sonora in the republic of Mexico.

§ 55. NEW YORK CONFERENCE shall consist of the territory now in the New York, Poughkeepsie, Newburgh, and Kingston District, and including Five Points Mission.

§ 56. NEW YORK EAST CONFERENCE shall include Long Island; those Charges in Manhattan and Bronx east of South Ferry, Whitehall Street, Broadway, Park Row, Chatham Square, Bowery, Third Avenue to Pelham Avenue; west to the Harlem Railroad track; north to Mount Vernon; thence including Mount Vernon, New Rochelle, Mamaroneck, Harrison, and all between them and Long Island Sound to the State of Connecticut; thence following the State line, including Pound Ridge, to Sharon township; east to the Housatonic River; north to Canaan township; east to Winchester, excluding North Goshen; north to State line; east to the Connecticut River, and following the river to the Sound, and also excepting Five Points Mission.

§ 57. NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the State of North Carolina and in that part of the State of Virginia lying south of a line beginning at Cape Henry and running to Hampton Roads; thence with Hampton Roads to the James River; thence with the southern bank of the James

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River to Chesterfield County; thence with the northern boundary of the following counties: Prince George, Dinwiddie, Nottoway, Prince Edward, Charlotte, and Halifax, to the northeast corner of Pittsylvania; thence in a southerly direction to the northeast corner of Henry; thence with the county lines of Pittsylvania, Franklin, and Bedford to the corner of Bedford and Roanoke; thence with the Blue Ridge Mountains to the North Carolina line.

§ 58. NORTH DAKOTA CONFERENCE shall include the State of North Dakota except that part which lies between the Missouri and the Yellowstone Rivers.

§ 59. NORTH INDIANA CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the north by the State of Michigan; on the east by the State of Ohio, including Union City; on the south by the National Road from the State line west to Marion County; thence north to the northeast corner of said county; thence west to the Michigan Road; on the west by said Michigan Road to South Bend; and thence by the Saint Joseph River to the Michigan State line, including Logansport and all the towns on the National Road east of Indianapolis.

§ 60. NORTH MONTANA CONFERENCE shall be bounded as follows: Beginning at the northeast corner of Montana, south to Mondak; thence west along the Missouri River to the mouth of Squaw Creek; thence along said creek to the watershed of the Musselshell and Yellowstone Rivers to the North Fork of the Musselshell to Copperopolis; thence north to the north line of township ten, north, leaving White Sulphur Springs in the Montana Conference; thence west through the Montana Wesleyan University building in the Prickly Pear Valley to the Great Northern Railway; thence along said railway to the

Montana Conference; thence northwest to the Continental Divide; thence along said Divide to the station of Mitchell, leaving said station in the North southeast corner of Flathead County; thence along the former boundary of Flathead County to the Idaho line; thence north to the Canadian line; thence east to the boundary between Montana and North Dakota.

§ 61. NORTH-EAST OHIO CONFERENCE shall be bounded as follows: Beginning at the north point of the line separating Ohio from Pennsylvania; thence south along said line to the Ohio River, including Orangeville Church; thence down said river to the Muskingum River; thence up the Muskingum River to Dresden, excluding Marietta, Zanesville, and Dresden; thence westerly to the main road passing through Delaware and Marion, including Utica, Homer, and Galena Circuits, and excluding Stratford; on the west by the main road passing through Delaware and Marion to Upper Sandusky, and by the Sandusky River to its mouth; thence due north to the State line, including the towns of Tiffin, Port Clinton, and Lakeside, and excluding so much of the town of Delaware as lies west of Sandusky Street, yet including Asbury Church in the city of Delaware; also excluding the towns of Marion, Fremont, and Upper Sandusky; thence east on the northern line of the State of Ohio to the place of beginning.

§ 62. NORTHERN GERMAN CONFERENCE shall include the German work in the States of Minnesota and North Dakota, and also appointments in the State of Wisconsin along the Mississippi River north of the city of La Crosse which are not included in the Chicago German Conference.

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§ 63. NORTHERN MINNESOTA CONFERENCE shall include all of the State of Minnesota not included in the Minnesota Conference.

§ 64. NORTHERN NEW YORK CONFERENCE shall include so much of the county of Franklin as is not within the Troy Conference, and the counties of Saint Lawrence, Jefferson, Lewis, Oneida, and Herkimer, and all of Oswego County except Phoenix, and so much of the county of Madison as lies on and east of the New York, Ontario & Western Railroad, together with Cherry Valley, Springfield, and Richfield Springs in Otsego County, Saint Johnsville in Montgomery County, and Lassellsville, Oppenheim, and Stratford in Fulton County.

§ 65. NORTHERN SWEDISH CONFERENCE shall include all of the Swedish work in Minnesota, northern Michigan, Wisconsin (except Racine), North Dakota, and that part of Montana lying east of the Rocky Mountains.

§ 66. NORTHWEST GERMAN CONFERENCE shall include the German work in the State of South Dakota; and in that part of the State of Iowa north of an east and west line passing along the south line of the city of Clinton; and in that part of the State of Illinois lying west of the Chicago German Conference; and all appointments in the State of Wisconsin south of and including the cities of La Crosse and Tomah which are not included in the Chicago German Conference.

§ 67. NORTHWEST INDIANA CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the north by Lake Michigan and the State line; on the east by the Saint Joseph River and the Michigan Road, including Lowell Heights and River Park Churches, South Bend, Indiana; on the south by the Indiana Conference, and on the west

by Illinois, including all the towns on the Michigan Road except Logansport; and all the towns on the southern boundary, excluding Locust Street Charge, in Greencastle, and Washington Street Church in Indianapolis.

§ 68. NORTHWEST IOWA CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Iowa west of the Upper Iowa and north of the Des Moines Conferences.

§ 69. NORTHWEST KANSAS CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the west and north by the Kansas State line; on the east by the sixth principal meridian, but including the Solomon City Circuit; and on the south by the south line of township seventeen as far west as to the east line of Lane County; thence north to the north line of said Lane County; thence west to the State line.

§ 70. NORTHWEST NEBRASKA CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Nebraska lying within the following boundary lines: Beginning at a point where the west line of range twelve west of the sixth principal meridian meets the boundary line between Nebraska and South Dakota; thence south to the northeast corner of Garfield County; thence west to the northeast corner of Blaine County; thence south to the southeast corner of Blaine County; thence west to the southwest corner of Grant County; thence south to the southeast corner of Garden County; thence on the county line to the southeast corner of Morrill County; thence west on the south line of Banner County to the Wyoming line; thence north to the South Dakota line; thence east to the west line of range twelve west of the sixth principal meridian.

§ 71. NORWEGIAN AND DANISH CONFERENCE shall in-

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clude all the Norwegian and Danish work between the Allegheny and Rocky Mountains except in the city of Buffalo.

§ 72. OHIO CONFERENCE shall be bounded as follows: Commencing on the Muskingum River north of Dresden; thence down said river to the Ohio River, including Zanesville and Marietta; thence down the Ohio River to the mouth of Ohio Brush Creek; thence north to the southeast corner of Fayette County; thence northwest to the west line of Fayette County, not including Center Church; thence north on the west line of Fayette and Madison Counties to the Springfield branch of the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & Saint Louis Railroad, leaving Vienna, Dunbarton, and Sinking Spring Circuits west of said line; thence east on the southern boundaries of the former Central Ohio and North-East Ohio Conferences to the place of beginning, including Milford Center and Stratford, and Saint Paul's Charge, Delaware, Ohio.

§ 73. OKLAHOMA CONFERENCE shall include the State of Oklahoma, except the three counties of Beaver, Texas, and Cimarron; also the entire State of Texas, except El Paso County and that portion included in the Gulf Conference.

§ 74. OREGON CONFERENCE shall include all that part of the State of Oregon not included in the Columbia River and the Idaho Conference.

§ 75. PACIFIC GERMAN CONFERENCE shall include the German work of the States of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana.

§ 76. PHILADELPHIA CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the east by the Delaware River, on the south by the Pennsylvania State line, on the west by the Susquehanna River, excluding Harrisburg and the adjoining

part of Dauphin County, extending east to Paxtonia and Rutherford, included in the Central Pennsylvania Conference; on the north by the north line of Dauphin, Schuylkill, Carbon, and Monroe Counties, excepting Ashland, and the Beaver Meadows Circuit.

§ 77. PITTSBURGH CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the north by the Erie Conference; on the east by the Central Pennsylvania Conference; on the south by the West Virginia Conference; on the west by the North-East Ohio Conference.

§ 78. PUGET SOUND CONFERENCE shall include all that part of the State of Washington lying west of the summit of the Cascade Mountains.

§ 79. ROCK RIVER CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Illinois north of Central Illinois Conference, except East Dubuque. This Conference shall include the work among the Welsh people of the States of Illinois and Wisconsin.

§ 80. SAINT JOHNS RIVER CONFERENCE shall include the work among the white people in the State of Florida, excepting that portion lying west of the Apalachicola River.

§ 81. SAINT LOUIS CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Missouri lying south of the Missouri River, and the work among the white people in the State of Arkansas.

§ 82. SAINT LOUIS GERMAN CONFERENCE shall include the German work in that part of the State of Illinois south of the Chicago German Conference, and in the State of Iowa south of the Northwest German Conference; and all of the German work in the State of Missouri which is not within the West German Conference.

§ 83. SAVANNAH CONFERENCE shall include the col-

ored work in that part of the State of Georgia lying south of a line running east and west on a line of the northern boundaries of Richmond, McDuffie, Warren, Hancock, Putnam, Jasper, and Butts Counties; that part of Spalding County embracing Liberty Hill Circuit; all of Pike County except the Church known as Free Liberty; that part of Meriwether County embracing Greenville; and that part of Troup County embracing La Grange Station and La Grange Circuit.

§ 84. SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the State of South Carolina.

§ 85. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE shall include that portion of the State of California lying south of the line beginning at the mouth of the Carmel River on Carmel Bay; thence in a direct line to the northwest corner of Fresno County; thence north to the northwest corner of Merced County; thence east and north along the north boundary of Merced County, including the Newman Circuit, to the point where said boundary intersects the middle fork of Merced River; thence, following the middle fork of Merced River, to the summit of the Sierra Nevada Mountains at the northwest corner of Inyo County; thence along the north line of said county to the California-Nevada State line; also that portion of the State of Nevada lying south of the line beginning at the point where the thirty-seventh parallel of north latitude intersects the California-Nevada State line; thence east along said parallel to the west line of Lincoln County, State of Nevada; thence north and east along the line of Lincoln County to the Nevada-Utah State line. It shall also include Lower California in Republic of Mexico.

§ 86. SOUTHERN GERMAN CONFERENCE shall include the German work in the States of Texas and Louisiana.

§ 87. SOUTHERN ILLINOIS CONFERENCE shall include all that part of the State of Illinois south of the following line, namely: Beginning at a point on the Mississippi River at the northwest corner of Calhoun County; thence east along the north line of said County to the Illinois River; thence down the Illinois River to Columbiana; thence east to the northeast corner of Jersey County, leaving Carrollton and Rockbridge in the Illinois Conference; thence in a southeasterly direction, leaving Chesterfield in the Illinois Conference and Litchfield in the Southern Illinois Conference; thence to Hillsboro, leaving Hillsboro in the Illinois Conference; thence to the northwest corner of Fayette County; thence along the north line of Fayette County and Effingham County to the west line of Cumberland County, leaving Herrick and Holiday in the Southern Illinois Conference; thence south to the southwest corner of Cumberland County; thence east along the south line of Cumberland and Clark Counties to the Wabash River.

§ 88. SOUTHWEST KANSAS CONFERENCE shall include all that part of the State of Kansas not included in the Kansas and the Northwest Kansas Conferences; also Beaver, Cimarron, and Texas Counties in the State of Oklahoma.

§ 89. TENNESSEE CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in that portion of the State of Tennessee west of and including the counties of Franklin, Coffee, Warren, White, Putnam, Overton, and Picket, in said State.

§ 90. TEXAS CONFERENCE shall include the colored

work in so much of the State of Texas as lies east of a line beginning at the Gulf of Mexico on the east line of Matagorda County, and running along said line and the east line of Wharton and Colorado Counties to the north point of Colorado County; thence north until it strikes the Central Railroad at Calvert; thence along the line of the railroad to the northern boundary of Texas, excluding Calvert and all the towns on the line of said road.

§ 91. TROY CONFERENCE shall include that portion of the State of New York embraced in the counties of Rensselaer, Washington, Clinton, Essex, Warren, Saratoga, Schenectady, Montgomery (except Saint Johnsville), Fulton (except the towns of Oppenheim and Stratford), Albany (except Coeymans Hollow, and South Bethlehem), Schoharie (except Blenheim, Charlottesvile, Eminence, Gilboa, Livingstonville, and Summit); in Columbia County, the towns of Stuyvesant, Kinderhook, New Lebanon, and Chatham (except Chatham Village and East Chatham); in Franklin County, the towns of Standish, Saranac Lake, and the appointments connected with Bloomingdale Circuit; in Hamilton County, the towns of Benson, Hope, Wells, Indian Lake, Long Lake, and Blue Mountain Lake; and in Otsego County, Center Valley; also that portion of the State of Vermont embraced in the counties of Addison (except the towns of Granville and Hancock); Bennington (except the towns of Landgrove and Peru), Rutland (except Mechanicville and Cuttingsville, Mount Holly, East Wallingford, Summit, and Healdsville), and in Chittenden County, the towns of Charlotte, Hinesburg, Huntington, Williston, Shelburne, Burlington, and Winooski; also in the State of Massachusetts all that part of Berkshire

County lying upon the line of the Boston & Albany Railroad, and north of said line.

§ 92. UPPER IOWA CONFERENCE shall be bounded as follows, namely: Beginning at the northeast corner of the State of Iowa; thence down the Mississippi River to Davenport, including East Dubuque, in the State of Illinois; thence west on the north line of the Iowa Conference to the southeast corner of Story County; thence north to the State line, so as to include Iowa Falls; thence east on said line to the place of beginning.

§ 93. UPPER MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the State of Mississippi not included in the Mississippi Conference.

§ 94. VERMONT CONFERENCE shall include the State of Vermont, except that section lying south of the Winooski River and west of the Green Mountain divide; said boundary to leave Winooski Charge in the Troy Conference, and Mechanicville and Cuttingsville in the Vermont Conference.

§ 95. WASHINGTON CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in western Maryland, the District of Columbia, the State of West Virginia, except the counties of Raleigh, Mercer, Wyoming, and McDowell; so much of the State of Pennsylvania as lies west of the Susquehanna River, including the towns on said river; and so much of the State of Virginia as is not included in the East Tennessee, Delaware, and North Carolina Conferences.

§ 96. WEST GERMAN CONFERENCE shall include the German work in the States of Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, and Oklahoma, and so much of the State of Missouri as lies west of a line commencing at the southeast corner of the State of Kansas; thence direct

to the southeast corner of Morgan County, Missouri; thence north to the northeast corner of Chariton County, Missouri; thence to the northeast corner of Worth County, Missouri.

§ 97. WEST OHIO CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the north by the north line of the State of Ohio; on the east by the North-East Ohio Conference to the junction with the Ohio Conference at Delaware, excluding Asbury Church; thence west by the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago and Saint Louis Railroad to the west line of the Ohio Conference; thence south by the west line of the Ohio Conference; on the south by the Ohio River; and on the west by the west line of the State of Ohio.

§ 98. WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE shall embrace the colored work in that part of the State of Texas which is not included in the Texas Conference.

§ 99. WEST VIRGINIA CONFERENCE shall be bounded as follows: Beginning at the southwest corner of Pennsylvania; thence along the west line of Pennsylvania to the northeast corner of Ohio County, West Virginia, so as to include Dallas Circuit and Triadelphia Circuit; thence by the most direct way to Short Creek so as to include Short Creek and Liberty Circuit; thence down Short Creek to the Ohio River; thence down said river to the mouth of the Big Sandy River; on the west by the State line; on the south by the Kentucky and Holston Conferences, including the counties of Highland, Augusta, Rockbridge, Botetourt, Allegheny, and Craig in the State of Virginia; on the east so as to include Bayard, Blaine, Gorman, Swanton, and Grantsville Charges, to the Pennsylvania State line; thence westward along said line to the place of beginning.

§ 100. WEST WISCONSIN CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Wisconsin not embraced in the Wisconsin Conference.

§ 101. WESTERN NORWEGIAN - DANISH CONFERENCE shall include the Norwegian and Danish work in the States of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, and California.

§ 102. WESTERN SWEDISH CONFERENCE shall include all of the Swedish work in the States of Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, and South Dakota.

§ 103. WILMINGTON CONFERENCE shall include the State of Delaware, the eastern shore of Maryland, and all that part of the State of Virginia east of the Baltimore Conference.

§ 104. WISCONSIN CONFERENCE shall include all that part of the State of Wisconsin lying east and north of a line beginning at the southeast corner of Green County, on the south line of the State; thence north on the range line between ranges nine and ten east, to the north line of township twenty; thence west on the said line to the east line of range three; thence north on said line to the Michigan State line, excluding Avon Church, McFarland, Goodman Church, Brooklyn, and the town of Pine Grove in Portage County.

§ 105. WYOMING CONFERENCE shall include that portion of the southern part of the State of New York which is not included in the New York, New York East, Newark, Central New York, and Genesee Conferences; and that part of the State of Pennsylvania which is bounded on the west by Central New York Conference, including the territory east of the Susquehanna River, and on the south by the Central

## ¶ 515 BOUNDARIES OF ANNUAL CONFERENCES

Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, and Newark Conferences, including Narrowsburg, and on the east by the Newark and New York Conferences.

§ 106. WYOMING STATE CONFERENCE shall include the State of Wyoming.

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### II. Foreign Countries

¶ 515, § 1. BENGAL CONFERENCE shall include Bengal, Assam, and so much of the province of Bihar and Orissa as does not lie within the bounds of the North India Conference.

§ 2. BOMBAY CONFERENCE shall include all of the Bombay Presidency north of the Savantvadi, Belgaum, and Bijapur Civil Districts; such parts of the Central India Agency as lie south of the twenty-fifth parallel of north latitude and west of the Central Provinces Conference; and Baluchistan.

§ 3. CENTRAL CHINA CONFERENCE shall include Central China, with its central station at the city of Nanking, on the Yang-tse River, excluding the Kiangsi Annual Conference.

§ 4. CENTRAL PROVINCES CONFERENCE shall include all the Central Provinces, and the Feudatory States under the supervision of the Central Provinces government, Berar, and such portions of the Central India Agency as lie south of the twenty-fifth parallel of north latitude and east of the seventy-sixth meridian of east longitude; also that portion of the Nizam's dominions lying north of the Godavari Valley Railway, from that point where it enters the Bombay Presidency to the point where it crosses the Godavari River. From this point eastward, the boundary line shall be the Godavari River.

§ 5. CHILE CONFERENCE shall include the republic of Chile.

§ 6. DENMARK CONFERENCE shall include the Kingdom of Denmark.

§ 7. EASTERN SOUTH AMERICA CONFERENCE shall include the republics of Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, and Brazil.

§ 8. FINLAND CONFERENCE shall include the republic of Finland.

§ 9. FOOCHOW CONFERENCE shall include the Fukien Province in China, excepting so much as is included within the Hinghua Conference, and the Yenping Conference.

§ 10. HINGHUA CONFERENCE shall include the Hinghua Prefecture and the adjoining territory in which the Hinghua dialect is spoken; and the Ing-chung Prefecture and the adjoining territory in which the Amoy dialect is spoken.

§ 11. ITALY CONFERENCE shall include the Kingdom of Italy, and those parts of contiguous countries in which the Italian language is spoken.

§ 12. KIANGSI CONFERENCE shall include the Province of Kiangsi and that portion of the Anhwei Province west of a line drawn north and south through the west wall of the city of Anking, the capital of the province, and also the Hwangmei County in Hupeh Province.

§ 13. KOREA CONFERENCE shall include Korea.

§ 14. LIBERIA CONFERENCE shall include the western coast of Africa north of the equator.

§ 15. MALAYSIA CONFERENCE shall include the Straits Settlements, the Malay Peninsula, French Indo-China, and such adjacent islands or portions thereof (includ-

ing Borneo) as are under British government or protection.

§ 16. MEXICO CONFERENCE shall include the republic of Mexico, except the States of Chihuahua and Sonora and the territory of Lower California; it shall also include Central America, except Costa Rica.

§ 17. NORTH CHINA CONFERENCE shall include that portion of the Chinese republic including the southern part of the Province of Fengtien and the northern part of the Province of Chili and the northern parts of the Provinces of Shantung and Honan.

§ 18. NORTH GERMANY CONFERENCE shall include all that part of Germany north of a line running from the northwest to the southeast, between the Provinces of the Rhine and Westphalia, and from the southern point of Westphalia to the northern point of Bavaria; thence by the north and northeast boundary of Bavaria, between Bavaria on the one side and the Turlingen States and that of Saxony on the other, so as to include the present districts of Berlin, Bremen, and Leipzig and the Circuit of Cassel.

§ 19. NORTH INDIA CONFERENCE shall include the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh east of the Ganges, and such portions of the Mirzapur and Benares Civil Districts (including the Benares State) as lie south of the Ganges. It shall also include the following civil districts of the province of Bihar and Orissa, namely: Champaran, Saran, Sahabad, Muzaffarpur, Patna, Gaya, Darbhanga, Monghyr, and Bhagalpur.

§ 20. NORTHWEST INDIA CONFERENCE shall include that portion of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, not included in the North India Conference, lying south and west of the Ganges; the Punjab, and

such parts of Rajputana and Central India Agency as lie north of the twenty-fifth parallel of north latitude.

§ 21. NORWAY CONFERENCE shall include the Kingdom of Norway.

§ 22. PHILIPPINE ISLANDS CONFERENCE shall include the Philippine Archipelago and the Sulu Islands.

§ 23. SOUTH GERMANY CONFERENCE shall include all of Germany not included in the North Germany Conference.

§ 24. SOUTH INDIA CONFERENCE shall include all that part of India lying south of the Bombay and Bengal Conferences and the Central Provinces Conference.

§ 25. SWEDEN CONFERENCE shall include the Kingdom of Sweden.

§ 26. SWITZERLAND CONFERENCE shall include the Republic of Switzerland except the work among the Italian-speaking people.

§ 27. WEST CHINA CONFERENCE shall include the work in the western part of the Chinese Republic and in Tibet.

§ 28. YENPING CONFERENCE shall include the Yenping Prefecture and the Kweihwa County of the Tingchow Prefecture, all territory being in the Fukien Province.

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### CHAPTER III

## BOUNDARIES OF MISSION CONFERENCES AND MISSIONS

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### I. United States and Territories

¶ 516, § 1. ALASKA MISSION shall include the Territory of Alaska.

§ 2. ARIZONA MISSION shall include the State of Arizona, Needles in the State of California, and the State of Sonora in the republic of Mexico.

§ 3. HAWAII MISSION shall include the Hawaiian Islands.

§ 4. PACIFIC CHINESE MISSION shall include all the Chinese work between the Mississippi River and the Pacific Ocean.

§ 5. PACIFIC JAPANESE MISSION shall include all the Japanese work west of the Mississippi River.

§ 6. PACIFIC SWEDISH MISSION CONFERENCE shall include the Swedish work in the States of California, Oregon, Washington, Utah, Nevada, Idaho, and Arizona, and that part of Montana west of the Rocky Mountains.

§ 7. PORTO RICO MISSION CONFERENCE shall include Porto Rico and the adjacent islands belonging to its civil jurisdiction, together with any work which may be established by our church or come under its care in any of the islands known as the West Indies.

§ 8. SOUTH FLORIDA MISSION shall include the colored work in that part of the State of Florida lying south of parallel twenty-nine, including New Smyrna, Daytona, Ormond, and De Land.

§ 9. SOUTHERN SWEDISH MISSION CONFERENCE shall include all the Swedish work in Texas.

§ 10. UTAH MISSION shall include the State of Utah.

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## II. Foreign Countries

¶ 517. SOUTH AMERICA. § 1. *North Andes Mission Conference* shall include Peru and Ecuador and all parts of South America not included in other organized Conferences and Missions.

§ 2. *Bolivia Mission Conference* shall include the republic of Bolivia.

§ 3. *Panama Mission* shall include the republics of Panama and Costa Rica.

¶ 518. EUROPE. § 1. *Austria Mission Conference* shall include Austria.

§ 2. *Bulgaria Mission Conference* shall include Bulgaria.

§ 3. *France Mission Conference* shall include the republic of France.

§ 4. *Russia Mission* shall include the republic of Russia.

§ 5. *Hungary Mission* shall include Hungary.

§ 6. *Baltic Mission* shall include the Baltic and Slavic republics contiguous to Russia.

§ 7. *Jugo-Slavic Mission Conference* shall include the work in Jugo-Slavia.

§ 8. *Spain Mission* shall include the work in Spain.

¶ 519. ASIA. § 1. *Burma Mission Conference* shall include Burma.

§ 2. *Netherlands Indies Mission Conference* shall include the Islands of Java, Sumatra, and such adjacent islands or portions thereof (including Borneo) as are not under British government or protection.

§ 3. *English-speaking Mission* in India shall include the English-speaking work of India with boundaries as defined by the Executive Board of the Southern Asia Central Conference.

§ 4. *Japanese Council* shall include our work among the Japanese in the Japanese Empire.

¶ 520. AFRICA. § 1. *North Africa Mission Conference* shall include the work in North Africa, and the Madeira Islands.

§ 2. *Congo Mission Conference* shall include the work in the Belgian Congo.

§ 3. *Rhodesia Mission Conference* shall include the work in the Rhodesia and in that portion of Portuguese East Africa north of the Sabi River.

§ 4. *Southeast Africa Mission Conference* shall include the work south of the Sabi River in East Africa.

§ 5. *Angola Mission Conference* shall include the work in West Africa south of the equator.

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## CHAPTER IV

### ENABLING ACTS

The following enabling acts are in force: *Provided*, that the number of members in any adjoining Conference or Mission Conference shall not be diminished to less than twenty-five.

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#### IN UNITED STATES

¶ 521. § 1. *Columbia River and Oregon Conferences* during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of the members present and voting and with the consent of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, may transfer that part of the Columbia River Conference lying in the State of Oregon to the Oregon Conference.

§ 2. *Illinois and Central Illinois Conferences*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of the members of each Conference present and voting and the concurrence of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, may unite and form one Annual Conference with such name as may then be adopted.

§ 3. *Latin-American Mission.* The Resident Bishop of the San Francisco Area is authorized to organize the Latin-American Mission, which shall include the Mexicans and other Spanish-speaking people, Portuguese, Italians, and French in Lower California, the States of California and Nevada, and that part of the State of Arizona lying west of the meridian of longitude 112 degrees west.

§ 4. *Maine and East Maine Conferences* during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of the members of each Conference present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop or Bishops presiding and with the consent of the Resident Bishop, may unite in one Conference under the name of the Maine Conference.

§ 5. *The Pacific Swedish Mission Conference*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of the members and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may be organized into an Annual Conference, under such name as may be adopted.

§ 6. *Minnesota and Northern Minnesota Conferences*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of each Conference, with the concurrence of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, may unite and form one Conference with such name as may be adopted.

§ 7. *Puget Sound and Columbia River Conferences*, during the next quadrennium, by a vote of a majority of the members of each Conference present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, may unite to form one Annual Conference to be known as the Cascade Annual Conference.

§ 8. *The South Florida Mission*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of the members

present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may be organized into a Mission Conference.

§ 9. *Montana and North Montana Conferences*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of each Conference, with the concurrence of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, may unite and form one Conference under such name as may be adopted.

§ 10. *The New Mexico Annual Conference* may, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, organize the work among the Spanish-speaking people in the States of Arizona, east of meridian 112 degrees west longitude, New Mexico, Colorado, El Paso, Texas, and the States of Chihuahua and Sonora in the republic of Mexico into a Mission to be known as the Southwest Spanish Mission.

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#### IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

¶ 522, § 1. *Panama Mission*, during the next quadrennium, by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may be organized into a Mission Conference with such name as may be adopted.

§ 2. *North Andes Mission Conference*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may be organized into an Annual Conference.

§ 3. *Russia Mission*, during the next quadrennium, by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding,

may be organized into a Mission Conference with such name as may be adopted.

§ 4. *Bombay and Central Provinces Conferences*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of members present and voting in each Conference and with the concurrence of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, may divide into three (3) Annual Conferences with such names and boundaries as may be adopted, fixed by the Southern Asia Central Mission Conference.

§ 5. *Bombay Annual Conference*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may organize that portion of the Bombay Annual Conference known as Sind-Baluchistan with such contiguous territories as may be agreed upon by neighboring Conferences into a Mission Conference, with such boundaries as may be fixed by the Southern Asia Central Mission Conference.

§ 6. *Burma Mission Conference* may, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, be organized into an Annual Conference with such name and boundaries as may be fixed by the Southern Asia Central Mission Conference.

§ 7. *English-speaking Mission in India*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may be organized into a Mission Conference.

§ 8. *Hinghua Annual Conference*, during the next quadrennium, by a two-thirds vote of the members

present and voting and the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may organize that portion of the Hinghua Conference embracing the counties of Yungchun, Tehwa, and Tatien into a Mission Conference, with such name as may be adopted, and with boundaries agreed upon by the Eastern Asia Central Mission Conference.

§ 9. *North Africa Mission Conference*, during the next quadrennium, by a vote of a majority of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may be organized into an Annual Conference.

§ 10. *North and Northwest India Conferences*, during the next quadrennium, by a vote of a majority of the members present and voting in each Conference and with the concurrence of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, may so divide their territory and adjust their boundaries as to form three (3) Annual Conferences and a Mission Conference with such names as may be adopted and such boundaries as the Southern Asia Central Mission Conference may fix.

§ 11. *Northwest India Conference*, during the next quadrennium, by a vote of the majority of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may form a Mission Conference to include Punjab, Sindh, and Baluchistan under such name as may be adopted, and with boundaries such as the Southern Asia Central Mission Conference may decide.

§ 12. *Netherlands Indies Mission Conference*, during the next quadrennium, by a vote of a majority of the members present and voting and with the

concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may be organized into an Annual Conference.

§ 13. *North Sumatra*, during the next quadrennium, by a vote of the majority of the members of the Netherlands-Indies Mission Conference present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may be organized into a Mission, with such name as may then be adopted and with boundaries fixed by the Southeastern Asia Central Mission Conference.

§ 14. *West Borneo*, during the next quadrennium, by a vote of the majority of the members of the Netherlands-Indies Mission Conference present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may be organized into a Mission, with such name as may then be adopted and with boundaries to be named by the Southeastern Asia Central Mission Conference.

§ 15. *Finland Conference*, during the next quadrennium, may by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, organize either the Finnish or the Swedish part of the work into a Mission Conference with such name as may then be adopted.

§ 16. Inasmuch as some readjustment of boundaries in Europe may be made necessary by changed political conditions, the Bishops in charge are hereby authorized to make such changes as in their judgment may seem to be required.

§ 17. Should the Conferences in Europe desire to organize during the quadrennium more than one Central Conference, authority to do this is hereby given when the necessary action of the Conferences

## ¶ 523 CENTRAL MISSION CONFERENCES

involved shall have been taken and the three Bishops Resident in Europe shall have approved.

§ 18. Any English-speaking Quarterly Conference in the Bengal Annual Conference may be included in the English-speaking Mission in India whenever by a majority vote, with the concurrence of the Resident Bishop, it so decides.

§ 19. *France Mission Conference*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of the members present and voting, and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may organize an Annual Conference with such name as may be adopted.

§ 20. *West China Annual Conference*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of the members present and voting, and with the concurrence of the Bishops Resident in China, may organize into two Annual Conferences, with such boundaries and names as may then be adopted.

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### AUTHORIZATION

§ 21. *Southern California Conference and Arizona Mission*, having complied with all Disciplinary requirements, are authorized and directed to complete their union into one Annual Conference on the first day of the ensuing session of the Southern California Annual Conference.

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## CHAPTER V

### CENTRAL MISSION CONFERENCES

#### ¶ 523, § 1. European Central Conference

1. Austria Mission Conference.
2. Bulgaria Mission Conference.

3. Denmark Annual Conference.
4. Finland Annual Conference.
5. France Mission Conference.
6. Italy Annual Conference.
7. North Germany Annual Conference.
8. Norway Annual Conference.
9. Russia Mission.
10. South Germany Annual Conference.
11. Sweden Annual Conference.
12. Switzerland Annual Conference.
13. North Africa Mission Conference.
14. Hungary Mission.
15. Baltic Mission.
16. Jugo-Slavic Mission Conference.
17. Spain Mission.

§ 2. **Eastern Asia Central Conference.**

1. Central China Annual Conference.
2. Japan Mission Council.
3. Foochow Annual Conference.
4. Hinghua Annual Conference.
5. Kiangsi Annual Conference.
6. Korea Annual Conference.
7. North China Annual Conference.
8. West China Annual Conference.
9. Yenping Annual Conference.

§ 3. **Southern Asia Central Conference.**

1. Bengal Annual Conference.
2. Bombay Annual Conference.
3. Burma Mission Conference.
4. Central Provinces Annual Conference.
5. North India Annual Conference.
6. Northwest India Annual Conference.
7. South India Annual Conference.

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**§ 4. The Central Conference for Southeastern Asia.**

1. Malaysia Annual Conference.
2. Philippine Islands Annual Conference.
3. The Netherlands Indies Mission Conference.

And any other Annual Conference, Mission Conference, or Mission which may be organized.

**§ 5. South Africa Central Conference.**

1. Angola Mission Conference.
2. Congo Mission Conference.
3. Rhodesia Mission Conference.
4. Southeast Africa Mission Conference.

**§ 6. Central Conference for Latin-America.**

1. Mexico Annual Conference.
2. Panama Mission.
3. North Andes Mission Conference.
4. Bolivia Mission.
5. Chile Annual Conference.
6. Eastern South America Annual Conference.

And any other Annual Conference, Mission Conference, or Mission that may be organized in Latin-America.

## **PART IX RITUAL**

**The Ritual of the Methodist Episcopal Church  
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- I. BAPTISM**
- II. RECEPTION OF MEMBERS**
- III. THE LORD'S SUPPER**
- IV. MATRIMONY**
- V. BURIAL OF THE DEAD**
- VI. CONSECRATION AND ORDINATION**
- II. CORNER STONE AND DEDICATION**

## CHAPTER I

### THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

[Let every adult person, and the parents of every child to be baptized, have the choice of either sprinkling, pouring, or immersion.]

[We will on no account whatever make a charge for administering Baptism.]

#### ¶ 524. Order for the Administration of Baptism to Infants

*The Minister, coming to the Font, which is to be filled with pure Water, shall use the following:*

DEARLY BELOVED, forasmuch as God in his great mercy hath entered into covenant relation with man, wherein he hath included children as partakers of its gracious benefits; and our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Suffer the little children to come unto me; forbid them not: for to such belongeth the kingdom of God; I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that having, of his bounteous mercy, redeemed *this child* by the blood of his Son, he will grant that *he*, being baptized with water, may also be baptized with the Holy Spirit, be received into Christ's holy Church, and become a *lively Member* of the same.

NOTE.—We call upon all our ministers to make faithful use of the forms and orders here provided, and without other deviation than that here indicated as permitted.

We urge all pastors to encourage and train their congregations to participate audibly in those portions of the service provided for this purpose, particularly in the celebration of the Lord's Supper. The portions to be used by the congregation are specially indicated by black face type.

The Scripture quotations, excepting the Psalms, the Lord's Prayer and forms of benediction, are from the American Standard Edition of the Revised Bible. Copyrighted, 1901, by Thomas Nelson & Sons.

*Then shall the Minister say:*

Let us pray.

Almighty and Everlasting God, who by thy well-beloved Son Jesus Christ gavest commandment to go into all the world and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; we beseech thee, that of thine infinite mercy thou wilt look upon *this child*: that *he*, being saved by thy grace, and received into Christ's holy Church, may be steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in love, and may so overcome all evil that finally *he* may reign with thee, world without end, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Then shall the Minister address the Parents or other Sponsors as followeth:*

Dearly Beloved, forasmuch as *this child is* now presented by you for Christian Baptism, and is thus consecrated to God and to his Church, it is your part and duty to see that *he* be taught, as soon as *he* shall be able to learn, the nature and end of this Holy Sacrament; that *he* shall read the Holy Scriptures and learn the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed and the Catechism; and that *he* be instructed in the principles of our Holy Faith and the nature of the Christian life. And ye shall call upon *him* to give reverent attendance upon the appointed means of grace, such as the ministry of the Word, and the public and private worship of God; and that in every way, by precept and example, ye shall seek to lead *him* into the love of God and the service of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Do you therefore solemnly engage to fulfill these duties, so far as in you lies, the Lord being your helper?

*Answer.*   **We do.**

*Then shall the People stand up, and the Minister shall say:*

Hear the words of the Gospel, written by St. Mark.  
[Chap. 10. 13-16.]

And they were bringing unto him little children, that he should touch them: and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, he was moved with indignation, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me; forbid them not: for to such belongeth the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall in no wise enter therein. And he took them in his arms, and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

*Then the Minister may take the Child in his arms, and say to the Parents or other Sponsors:*

What name shall be given to this child?

*And then, naming it after them, he shall baptize it, saying:*

N., I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.   **Amen.**

*Then shall the Minister offer the following Prayer, the People kneeling:*

O God of infinite mercy, be pleased to grant unto *this child* an understanding mind and a sanctified heart. May thy providence lead *him* through the

dangers, temptations, and ignorance of *his* youth, that *he* may never run into folly, nor into the evils of an unbridled appetite. We pray thee so to order the course of *his* life that, by good education, by holy examples, and by thy restraining and renewing grace, *he* may be led to serve thee faithfully all *his* days, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Almighty and Most Merciful Father, grant unto these, thy servants, the parents [sponsors] of *this child*, thy Holy Spirit, that *they* may command *their* household to keep the way of the Lord; that *their* whole family may be united to our Lord Jesus Christ in the bonds of faith, obedience, and charity; and that they all, being in this life thy holy children, may be admitted into the Church of the first born in heaven, through the merits of thy Son, our Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

*Then may the Minister offer extemporary Prayer.*

*Then shall be said by the Minister and People,  
all kneeling:*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

¶ 525. Order for the Administration of Baptism to  
such as are of Riper Years

*The Minister, addressing the Congregation, shall say:*

DEARLY BELOVED, forasmuch as all men have sinned

and come short of the glory of God, and our Saviour Christ saith except a man be born anew he cannot see the kingdom of God, and also gave commandment saying: Go ye, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit: I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his bounteous goodness he will grant to *these persons* that which by nature *they* cannot have; that *they*, being baptized with water, may also be baptized with the Holy Spirit, and, being received into Christ's holy Church, may continue lively *Members* of the same.

*Then shall the Minister say:*

Let us pray.

Almighty and Everliving God, the aid of all that need, the helper of all that flee to thee for succor, the life of them that believe, and the resurrection of the dead: we call upon thee for *these persons*, that *they*, coming to thy Holy Baptism, may also be filled with the Holy Spirit. Receive *them*, O Lord, as thou hast promised by thy well-beloved Son, saying, Ask, and ye shall receive; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. So give now unto us that ask; let us that seek, find; open the gate unto us that knock; that *these persons* may enjoy the everlasting benediction of thy heavenly washing, and may come to the eternal kingdom which thou hast promised, by Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Then may the Minister read the following Lesson:*

And Peter said unto them, Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ

unto the remission of your sins; and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For to you is the promise, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call unto him. And with many other words he testified, and exhorted them, saying, Save yourselves from this crooked generation. They then that received his word were baptized: and there were added unto them in that day about three thousand souls. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and the prayers. [Acts 2. 38-42.]

*Or this*

Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: the same came unto him by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that thou doest, except God be with him. Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except one be born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter a second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except one be born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born anew. The wind bloweth where it will, and thou hearest the voice thereof, but knowest not whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit. [John 3. 1-8.]

*Then shall the Minister speak to the Persons to be baptized on this wise:*

Well Beloved, who have come hither desiring to receive Holy Baptism, you have heard how the Congregation hath prayed that our Lord Jesus Christ would vouchsafe to receive you, to bless you, and to give you the kingdom of heaven, and everlasting life. And our Lord Jesus Christ hath promised in his Holy Word to grant all those things that we have prayed for: which promise he for his part will most surely keep and perform.

Wherefore, after this promise made by Christ, you must also faithfully, for your part, promise in the presence of this whole Congregation, that you will renounce the devil and all his works, and constantly believe God's Holy Word, and obediently keep his commandments.

#### THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

*Then shall the Minister demand of each of the Persons to be baptized:*

Dost thou renounce the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the carnal desires of the flesh, so that thou wilt not follow nor be led by them?

**Answer. I renounce them all.**

Dost thou believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son our Lord; and that he was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; that he suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; that

he rose the third day; that he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; and from thence shall come again at the end of the world, to judge the quick and the dead?

And dost thou believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic<sup>1</sup> Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and everlasting life after death?

**Answer. All this I steadfastly believe.**

Wilt thou be baptized in this faith?

**Answer. Such is my desire.**

Wilt thou then obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of thy life?

**Answer. I will endeavor so to do, God being my helper.**

*Then shall the Minister say:*

O Merciful God, grant that all sinful affections may die in *these persons*, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in *them*. *Amen.*

Grant that *they*, being here dedicated to thee in holy baptism, may also be endued with heavenly virtues, and everlastingly rewarded through thy mercy, O blessed Lord God, who dost live, and govern all things, world without end. *Amen.*

Almighty, Everliving God, regard, we beseech thee, our supplications; and grant that the *persons* now to be baptized may receive the fullness of thy grace, and ever remain in the number of thy faithful and beloved children, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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<sup>1</sup> The one universal Church of Christ.

*Then the Minister, asking the name of each Person, shall baptize him, saying:*

N., . . . I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

*Then shall be said by the Minister and people, all kneeling:*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*Then may the Minister conclude with extemporary Prayer.*

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## CHAPTER II

### RECEPTION OF MEMBERS

#### ¶ 526. Form for Receiving Persons into the Church as Preparatory Members

[The use of this form is discretionary with the minister.]

*Those who are to be received into the Church as Preparatory Members may be called forward by name, and the Minister, addressing the Congregation, shall say:*

**DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN, that none may be admitted hastily into the Church, we receive persons**

who seek fellowship with us on profession of faith into a preparatory membership; in which proof may be made, both to themselves and to the Church, of the sincerity and depth of their convictions and of the strength of their purpose to lead a new life.

The persons here present desire to be so admitted. You will hear their answers to the questions put to them, and if you make no objection they will be received.

It is needful, however, that you be reminded of your own responsibility, as having previously entered this holy fellowship and now representing the Church into which they seek admission. Inasmuch as they should find in you holy examples of life and loving help in the true serving of their Lord and ours, I beseech you so to order your own lives that these new disciples may take no detriment from you, but that it may ever be to them a cause for thanksgiving to God that they were led into this fellowship.

*Then, addressing the Persons seeking Admission as Preparatory Members, the Minister shall say:*

Dearly Beloved, you have, by the grace of God, made your decision to follow Christ and to serve him. Your confidence in so doing is not to be based on any notion of fitness or worthiness in yourselves, but on the gracious promise of God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, who loved us and gave himself for us.

That the Church may know your purpose, you will answer the following questions:

Have you an earnest desire to be saved from your sins?

*Answer. I have.*

Will you guard against all things contrary to the teaching of God's Word, and endeavor to lead a holy life, following the commandments of God?

*Answer.* **I will endeavor so to do.**

Will you give reverent attendance upon the appointed means of grace in the ministry of the Word, and in the private and public worship of God?

*Answer.* **With the help of God, I will.**

*The Minister shall then welcome the Candidates as Preparatory Members, and may assign them to classes.*

*Then may the Minister offer extemporary Prayer.*

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#### ¶ 527. Form for Receiving Persons into the Church from Preparatory Membership

*On the day appointed, all that are to be received into the Church shall be called forward, and the Minister, addressing the Congregation, shall say:*

DEARLY BELOVED, the Scriptures teach us that the Church is the household of God, the body of which Christ is the head; and that it is the design of the gospel to bring together in one all who are in Christ. The end of this fellowship is the salvation of men and the establishment of the kingdom of God upon earth. As helps thereto the Church is charged with the maintenance of sound doctrine and of the ordinances of Christian worship, and with the exercise of that power of godly admonition and discipline which Christ has committed to her for the promotion of holiness. The duties of those united in this fellowship are to continue steadfast in the faith and practice of the gospel; to promote the peace and unity of

the Church; to labor for the spread of love and righteousness; and by word and deed to bring others into the fold of Jesus Christ.

Into this holy fellowship the *persons* before you, who have already received the sacrament of Baptism and have been under instruction in the doctrines of Holy Scripture as taught by the Methodist Episcopal Church, *come* seeking admission. We now propose, in the fear of God, to question *them* as to *their* faith and purposes, that you may know that *they are* proper *persons* to be admitted into the Church.

*Then, addressing the Persons seeking Admission, the Minister shall say:*

Dearly Beloved, you are come hither seeking the great privilege of union with the Church our Saviour has purchased with his own blood. We rejoice in the grace of God vouchsafed unto you in that he has called you to be his *followers*, and that thus far you have run well. You have heard how solemn are the duties of membership in Christ's Church; and before you are fully admitted thereto, it is proper that you do here publicly renew your vows, confess your faith, and declare your purpose, by answering the following questions:

Do you here, in the presence of God and of this Congregation, renew the solemn promise contained in the Baptismal Covenant, ratifying and confirming the same, and acknowledging *yourselves* bound faithfully to observe and keep that Covenant?

*Answer. I do.*

Do you receive Jesus Christ as your Saviour, and do you confess him as your Lord and Master?

*Answer. I do.*

Do you believe in the Doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as set forth in the Articles of Religion of the Methodist Episcopal Church?

*Answer. I do.*

Will you study earnestly and prayerfully to know your duty concerning the principles of Christian stewardship, and will you contribute of your earthly substance, as God has prospered you, to the support of the Gospel and the various benevolent enterprises of the Church?

*Answer. I will.*

Will you cheerfully be governed by the Rules of the Methodist Episcopal Church, hold sacred the Ordinances of God, and endeavor, as much as in you lies, to promote the welfare of your brethren and the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom?

*Answer. I will.*

*Then, the Candidates kneeling, the Minister shall say:*

Defend, O Lord, *these thy servants* with thy heavenly grace; that *they* may continue thine forever; and daily increase in thy Holy Spirit, more and more, until *they* come unto thy everlasting kingdom. *Amen.*

*Then the Minister, extending the right hand of fellowship, shall say to the Candidates:*

We welcome you to the communion of the Church of God; and, in testimony of our Christian affection and the cordiality with which we receive you, I hereby extend to you the right hand of fellowship: and may God grant that you may be a faithful and useful Member of the Church militant till you are called to the fellowship of the Church triumphant, which is "without fault before the throne of God."

**¶ 528. Form for Receiving Children as Members of the Church**

We regard all children who have been baptized as standing in covenant relation to God, and as preparatory members under the special care and supervision of the Church. Whenever baptized children shall understand the obligations of religion, and shall give evidence of piety, they may be admitted into full membership in the Church. See Discipline, paragraphs 49 to 54.

*At the appointed time, the Minister shall read the names of the children to be received; and, after they have come forward, he shall say to the Congregation:*

DEARLY BELOVED, these persons here present before you are baptized children of the Church, who, having arrived at the years of discretion, desire now to confirm the vows of their baptism and to enter upon the active duties and the full privileges of membership in the Church of Christ. They have been duly instructed as to the truths of the Christian faith, and have been examined as to their fitness for such membership. Before they assume the required vows, let us invoke on their behalf the gracious blessing of God our Father, and the continued presence of the Holy Spirit who hath inclined their hearts to this end.

*Then shall the Minister say:*

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, who hast appointed unto children a place in thy kingdom, and through thy well beloved Son didst give unto them thy blessing, we beseech thee that thou wilt visit with thy favor the homes of this congregation, and fill the hearts of all parents with the fear of God and the spirit of wisdom and love. We pray that thy church

may be faithful in the nurture of those committed to her care. Let thy blessing rest upon these, thy children, whom thou hast graciously inclined to thy service and to the fellowship of thy people. We beseech thee, that thou wilt so further them by thy grace and direct them by thy Spirit, that they may be faithful servants in thy kingdom on earth, and finally reign with thee in thy kingdom above, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Then shall the Minister say:*

Hear the words of the Gospel as written by St. Luke (Chap. 2. 40-52).

And the child grew, and waxed strong, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him. And his parents went every year to Jerusalem at the feast of the passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up after the custom of the feast; and when they had fulfilled the days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and his parents knew it not; but supposing him to be in the company, they went a day's journey; and they sought for him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance: and when they found him not, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking for him. And it came to pass, after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both hearing them, and asking them questions: and all that heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when they saw him, they were astonished; and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I sought thee sorrowing. And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought

me? know ye not that I must be in my Father's house? And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them. And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth; and he was subject unto them: and his mother kept all *these* sayings in her heart.

*Then shall the Minister address the Persons seeking Admission as follows:*

Dearly Beloved, we rejoice in the grace of God in that he has brought you to this place, and by his Spirit has confirmed you in your purpose to serve him and to live in the fellowship of the Church of Christ. It is needful now that you should declare your faith and purpose in the presence of this congregation by answering the following questions:

Do you receive Jesus Christ as your Saviour, and do you confess him as your Lord and Master?

*Answer. I do.*

Do you receive and profess the Christian Faith as contained in the New Testament of our Lord Jesus Christ?

*Answer. I do.*

Will you be loyal to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and uphold it by your prayer, your presence, your gifts, and your service?

*Answer. I will.*

*Then, the Candidates kneeling, the Minister shall say:*

Defend, O Lord, *these* thy Children with thy heavenly grace, that *they* may continue thine forever, and daily increase in thy Holy Spirit more and more, until *they* come unto thy everlasting kingdom. *Amen.*

*Then the Minister, extending the right hand of fellowship, shall say to the Candidates:*

We welcome you to the communion of the Church of God; and, in testimony of our Christian affection and the cordiality with which we receive you, I hereby extend to you the right hand of fellowship: and may God grant that you may be a faithful and useful Member of the Church militant till you are called to the fellowship of the Church triumphant, which is "without fault before the throne of God."

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### CHAPTER III

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER, OR THE HOLY COMMUNION

[Let the pure, unfermented juice of the grape be used in administering the Lord's Supper.]

[Let persons who have scruples concerning the receiving of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper kneeling be permitted to receive it either standing or sitting.]

### ¶ 529. Order for the Administration of the Lord's Supper

[If the Minister so desire, he may here use the Ten Commandments, with responses by the people, as contained in the Hymnal, Number 738.]

*The Minister shall say one or more of these Sentences, during the reading of which the Persons appointed for that purpose shall receive the Offering for the Poor:*

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon the earth, where moth and rust consume, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust

doth consume, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: for where thy treasure is, there will thy heart be also. [Matt. 6. 19-21.]

All things therefore whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, even so do ye also unto them: for this is the law and the prophets. [Matt. 7. 12.]

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven. [Matt. 7. 21.]

Zacchæus stood, and said unto the Lord, Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have wrongfully exacted aught of any man, I restore fourfold. [Luke 19. 8.]

He that soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he that soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. *Let each man do* according as he hath purposed in his heart: not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. [2 Cor. 9. 6, 7.]

So then, as we have opportunity, let us work that which is good toward all men, and especially toward them that are of the household of the faith. [Gal. 6. 10.]

Godliness with contentment is great gain: for we brought nothing into the world, for neither can we carry anything out. [1 Tim. 6. 6, 7.]

Charge them that are rich in this present world, that they be not highminded, nor have their hope set on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; that they do good, that they be rich in good works, that they be ready to distribute, willing to communicate; laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on the life which is *life* indeed. [1 Tim. 6. 17-19.]

For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and the love which ye showed toward his name, in that ye ministered unto the saints, and still do minister. [Heb. 6. 10.]

To do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. [Heb. 13. 16.]

Whoso hath the world's goods, and beholdeth his brother in need, and shutteth up his compassion from him, how doth the love of God abide in him? [1 John 3. 17.]

He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto Jehovah, And his good deed will he pay him again. [Prov. 19. 17.]

Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble. [Psa. 41. 1.]

Thou shalt surely open thy hand unto thy brother, to thy needy, and to thy poor, in thy land. [Deut. 15. 11.]

*After which the Minister shall give the following Invitation, the People standing:*

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: and he is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for the whole world.

Wherefore ye that do truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways, draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and, de-

voutly kneeling, make your humble confession to Almighty God.

*Then shall this general Confession be made by the Minister and all those who are minded to receive the Holy Communion, he and all the People devoutly kneeling and saying:*

**Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men, we acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy Divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Then shall the Minister say:*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy great mercy hast promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto thee, have mercy upon us; pardon and deliver us from all our sins; confirm and strengthen us in all goodness; and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*This Collect shall then be said by the Minister and those intending to receive the Holy Communion:*

**Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open,**

all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Then shall the Minister say:*

We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may live and grow thereby; and that, being washed through his most precious blood, we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

*Then the Minister shall offer the Prayer of Consecration, as followeth:*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death until his coming again: hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee, and grant that we, receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to

thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion,  
<sup>1</sup> *Here the Minister may take the plate of Bread in his hand.* may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread(1); and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

Likewise after supper he took (2) the cup; and when he had given thanks, he <sup>2</sup> *Here he may take the cup in his hand.* gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this; for this is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me. *Amen.*

*Then shall the Minister receive the Communion in both kinds, and proceed to deliver the same to the other Ministers, if any be present; after which he shall say:*

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

*Then shall be said or sung by all the people:*

[The Hymnal, 741]

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee, and saying, Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most high! *Amen.*

*The Minister shall then proceed to administer the Communion to the People in order, kneeling, into their uncovered hands; and when he delivereth the Bread, he shall say:*

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for *thee*, preserve *thy* soul and *body* unto everlasting life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for *thee*; and feed on him in *thy* heart by faith, with thanksgiving.

*And the Minister that delivereth the Cup shall say:*

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for *thee*, preserve *thy* soul and *body* unto everlasting life. Drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for *thee*, and be thankful.

[If the Consecrated bread or wine shall be all spent before all have communed, the Elder may Consecrate more by repeating the Prayer of Consecration.]

[When all have communed, the Minister shall return to the Lord's table and place upon it what remaineth of the Consecrated elements, covering the same with a fair linen cloth.]

*Then shall the Elder say the Lord's Prayer; the People kneeling, and repeating after him every petition:*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*After which the Minister and People shall say:*

O Lord our heavenly Father, we thy humble

servants desire thy Fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and thy whole Church may obtain forgiveness of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion. And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that all we who are partakers of this Holy Communion may be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction. And although we be unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service; not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. Amen.

*Then shall be said or sung by all the People standing:*

[The Hymnal, 742.]

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men! We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty!

O Lord, the only begotten Son Jesus Christ: O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the

sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

*Then the Minister shall let the People depart with this Blessing:*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

[The Minister is expected to use the full form, but, if straitened for time in the usual administration of the Holy Communion, he may omit any part of the service, except the Invitation, the Confession, and the Prayer of Consecration; and in its administration to the sick he may omit any part of the service except the Confession, the Prayer of Consecration, and the usual sentences in delivering the Bread and Wine, closing with the Lord's Prayer, extemporary supplication, and the Benediction.]

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## CHAPTER IV

### MATRIMONY

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#### ¶ 530. Form for the Solemnization of Matrimony

[[The parts in brackets throughout may be used or not at discretion.]

*At the time appointed, the persons to be married—having been qualified according to law—standing together, the Man on the right hand and the Woman on the left, the Minister shall say:*

DEARLY BELOVED, we are gathered together here in the sight of God and in the presence of these wit-

nesses, to join together this man and this woman in holy Matrimony; which is an honorable estate, instituted of God in the time of man's innocency, signifying unto us the mystical union that exists between Christ and his Church; which holy estate Christ adorned and beautified with his presence, and first miracle that he wrought, in Cana of Galilee; and therefore is not by any to be entered into unadvisedly, but reverently, discreetly, and in the fear of God.

Into which holy estate these two persons present come now to be joined. Therefore if any can show just cause why they may not lawfully be joined together, let him now speak, or else hereafter forever hold his peace.

*[And also speaking unto the Persons that are to be married, the Minister shall say:*

I require and charge you both, that if either of you know any impediment why ye may not be lawfully joined together in matrimony, ye do now confess it: for be ye well assured, that so many as are married otherwise than God's Word doth allow, are not joined together by God, neither is their matrimony lawful.]

*If no impediment be alleged, then shall the Minister say unto the Man, using his given name:*

M., wilt thou have this woman to be thy wedded wife, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honor and keep her, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all other, keep thee only unto her, so long as ye both shall live?

*The Man shall answer:*

**I will.**

*Then shall the Minister say unto the Woman, using her given name:*

N., wilt thou have this man to be thy wedded husband, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou love him, comfort him, honor and keep him, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all other, keep thee only unto him, so long as ye both shall live?

*The Woman shall answer:*

**I will.**

*[Then shall the Minister say:*

*Who giveth this Woman to be married to this Man?]*

*[Answer: I do.]*

*[Then the Minister shall cause the Man with his right hand to take the Woman by her right hand, and, using the given names, to say after him as followeth:*

I, M., take thee, N., to be my wedded wife, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I plight thee my faith.

*Then shall they loose their hands, and the Woman, with her right hand taking the Man by his right hand, shall likewise say after the Minister:*

I, N., take thee, M., to be my wedded husband, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better,

for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I plight thee my faith.]

*[If the parties desire it, the Man shall here hand a Ring to the Minister, who shall return it to him, and direct him to place it on the third finger of the Woman's left hand. And the Man shall say to the Woman, repeating after the Minister:*

With this ring I thee wed, and with my worldly goods I thee endow, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.]

*Then shall the Minister pray thus:*

O Eternal God, Creator and Preserver of all mankind, Giver of all spiritual grace, the Author of everlasting life: send thy blessing upon these thy servants, this man and this woman, whom we bless in thy name; that they may surely perform and keep the vow and covenant between them made, and may ever remain in perfect love and peace together, and live according to thy laws, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Then shall the Minister join their right hands together, and say, using the given names:*

Forasmuch as M. and N. have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and thereto have pledged their faith either to other, and have declared the same by joining of hands [and by giving and receiving a ring]; I pronounce that they are husband and wife together, in the name of the Father, and of the

Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Those whom God hath joined together, let not man put asunder. *Amen.*

*And the Minister shall add this Blessing:*

God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favor look upon you; and so fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace, that ye may so live together in this life that in the world to come ye may have life everlasting. *Amen.*

*Then shall the Minister and the People together repeat the Lord's Prayer:*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

## CHAPTER V

## BURIAL OF THE DEAD

[We will on no account whatever make a charge for burying the dead.]

¶ 531. Form for Burial of the Dead

*The Minister, going before the Body, shall say:*

I AM the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth on me, though he die, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth on me shall never die. [John 11. 25, 26.]

For we know that if the earthly house of our tabernacle be dissolved, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal, in the heavens. [2 Cor. 5. 1.]

And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God the Almighty, and the Lamb, are the temple thereof. And the city hath no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine upon it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the lamp thereof is the Lamb. [Rev. 21. 22, 23.]

*In the House or Church may be read one of the following Psalms:*

## Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the

shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over:

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalm 90. 1, 2, 4-6, 12, 14, 16, 17

Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting thou art God. For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night. Thou carriest them away as with a flood; they are as a sleep: in the morning they are like grass which groweth up. In the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down, and withereth. So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. O satisfy us early with thy mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children. And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us; and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.

*Then may follow the reading of the Epistle, as follows:*

1 Corinthians 15. 41-49, 53-58

There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for

one star differeth from another star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: it is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: it is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual *body*. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. So also it is written, The first man Adam became a living soul. The last Adam *became* a life-giving spirit. Howbeit that is not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; then that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is of heaven. As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. But when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy victory? O death, where is thy sting? The sting of death is sin; and the power of sin is the law: but thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Wherefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not vain in the Lord.

*Or this:*

John 14. 1-3, 15-20, 25-27

Let not your heart be troubled: believe in God,

believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I come again, and will receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also.

If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may be with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth: whom the world cannot receive; for it beholdeth him not, neither knoweth him: ye know him; for he abideth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you desolate: I come unto you. Yet a little while, and the world beholdeth me no more; but ye behold me: because I live, ye shall live also. In that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.

These things have I spoken unto you, while yet abiding with you. But the Comforter, even the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said unto you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be fearful.

*Or this:*

Revelation 7. 9-17

After these things I saw, and behold, a great multitude, which no man could number, out of every nation and of *all* tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, arrayed in white robes, and palms in their hands; and they cry with a great voice, saying,

Salvation unto our God who sitteth on the throne,  
and unto the Lamb.

And all the angels were standing round about the throne, and *about* the elders and the four living creatures; and they fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, saying,

Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honor, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.

And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, These that are arrayed in the white robes, who are they, and whence came they? And I say unto him, My lord, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they that come out of the great tribulation, and they washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God; and they serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall spread his tabernacle over them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun strike upon them, nor any heat: for the Lamb that is in the midst of the throne shall be their shepherd, and shall guide them unto fountains of waters of life: and God shall wipe away every tear from their eyes.

*At the Grave, when the Body is laid in the Earth,  
the Minister shall say:*

Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am.

In the midst of life we are in death: of whom may

we seek for succor, but of thee, O Lord, who for our sins art justly displeased?

Yet, O Lord God most holy, O Lord most mighty, deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death; but grant us everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

*Then, while the Earth may be cast upon the Body by some standing by, the Minister shall say:*

Forasmuch as the spirit of the departed hath returned to the God who gave it, we therefore commit *his* body to the ground earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust; looking for the general resurrection in the last day, and the life of the world to come, through our Lord Jesus Christ; at whose second coming in glorious majesty to judge the world, the earth and the sea shall give up their dead; and the corruptible bodies of those who sleep in him shall be changed and made like unto his own glorious body; according to the mighty working whereby he is able to subdue all things unto himself.

*Then shall be said:*

I heard a voice from heaven saying, Write, Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; for their works follow with them.

*Then shall the Minister say:*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Response* **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Then the Minister may offer this Prayer:*

Almighty God, with whom do live the spirits of

those who depart hence in the Lord, and with whom the souls of the faithful after death are in joy and felicity: we give thee hearty thanks for the good examples of all those thy servants, who, having finished their course in faith, do now rest from their labors. And we beseech thee, that we, with all those who are departed in the true faith of thy holy name, may have our perfect consummation and bliss, both in body and soul, in thy eternal and everlasting glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*The Collect*

O Merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the resurrection and the life; in whom whosoever believeth shall live, though he die, and whosoever liveth and believeth in him shall not die eternally: we meekly beseech thee, O Father, to raise us from the death of sin unto the life of righteousness; that when we shall depart this life we may rest in him; and at the general resurrection on the last day may be found acceptable in thy sight, and receive that blessing which thy well-beloved Son shall then pronounce to all that love and fear thee, saying, Come, ye blessed children of my Father, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world. Grant this, we beseech thee, O Merciful Father, through Jesus Christ our Mediator and Redeemer. *Amen.*

*Then shall the Minister and the People together  
repeat the Lord's Prayer*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily**

bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. Amen.

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¶ 532. Form for the Burial of a Child

*The service may begin with a suitable Hymn, after which the Minister may offer the following Prayer, saying:*

*Let us pray.*

Almighty God our heavenly Father, the refuge of all thy saints and the sure defense of all who put their trust in thee, lift upon us the light of thy countenance and give us peace. We know not thy counsels, O Lord, for thy thoughts are not our thoughts, nor thy ways our ways. Thou art infinitely holy, wise, and good, and thou doest all things well. Thou dost teach us in thy Holy Word that all things work together for good to them that love God, and that our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. Comfort, we beseech thee, the hearts that sorrow in the death of this child; grant unto them the strengthening grace of thy Holy Spirit, that they and all we who trust thy fatherly goodness and care may rejoice in the promise of eternal life; and that we may be united again with our loved ones in thy heavenly and eternal kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Then may be read any of the following Scripture passages:*

Mark 10. 13-16

And they were bringing unto him little children, that he should touch them: and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, he was moved with indignation, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me; forbid them not: for to such belongeth the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall in no wise enter therein. And he took them in his arms, and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalm 103. 13-18

Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him.

For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.

As for man, his days are as grass: as the flower of the field, so he flourisheth.

For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more.

But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;

To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them.

Revelation 22. 1-5

And he showed me a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb, in the midst of the street thereof. And on this side of the river and on that was the tree of life, bearing twelve *manner of* fruits, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the trees were for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no curse any more: and the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be therein: and his servants shall serve him; and they shall see his face; and his name *shall be* on their foreheads. And there shall be night no more; and they need no light of lamp, neither light of sun; for the Lord God shall give them light; and they shall reign for ever and ever.

*At the Grave, where<sup>n</sup> the Body is laid in the Earth,  
the Minister shall say:*

Almighty and Most Merciful God our heavenly Father, from whom our spirits come and to whom they shall return, grant unto all sorrowing hearts the consolation of thy grace. *Amen.*

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father, who didst give thy life for our redemption, and who didst

promise the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to thy people, strengthen, we beseech thee, the faith of these bereaved ones, that they may contemplate with peace the blessedness of that eternal home which thou hast prepared for all whom thou hast redeemed. Grant that they, and all others whose joy is turned into mourning, may not murmur nor faint under their affliction; but, cleaving more closely unto thee, O blessed Lord Christ, who art the resurrection and the life, may be led by thy Holy Spirit through all the trials of this uncertain life, till the day break and the shadows flee away. *Amen.*

*Here the Minister and the People may unite in the Lord's Prayer.*

*Then shall the Minister dismiss the People with the Benediction.*

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## CHAPTER VI

### CONSECRATION AND ORDINATION

#### ¶ 533. Form of Consecrating Bishops

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[This service is not to be understood as an ordination to a higher Order in the Christian Ministry, beyond and above that of Elders or Presbyters, but as a solemn and fitting Consecration for the special and most sacred duties of Superintendency in the Church.]

*When the day appointed for the consecration of Bishops is come, the service shall begin with hymn and prayer, after which shall be used the following:*

#### *The Collect*

ALMIGHTY GOD, who by thy Son Jesus Christ didst give to thy holy Apostles, Elders, and Evangelists

many excellent gifts, and didst charge them to feed thy flock: give grace, we beseech thee, to all the Ministers and Pastors of thy Church, that they may diligently preach thy word and duly administer the godly discipline thereof; and grant to the people that they may obediently follow the same, that all may receive the crown of everlasting glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Then shall be read by one of the Elders:*

Acts 20. 17-35

And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called to him the elders of the church. And when they were come to him, he said unto them,

Ye yourselves know, from the first day that I set foot in Asia, after what manner I was with you all the time, serving the Lord with all lowliness of mind, and with tears, and with trials which befell me by the plots of the Jews; how I shrank not from declaring unto you anything that was profitable, and teaching you publicly, and from house to house, testifying both to Jews and to Greeks repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there: save that the Holy Spirit testifieth unto me in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me. But I hold not my life of any account as dear unto myself, so that I may accomplish my course, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God. And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I went about preaching the kingdom, shall see my face no more. Wherefore I testify unto you this day, that I am pure

from the blood of all men. For I shrank not from declaring unto you the whole counsel of God. Take heed unto yourselves, and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit hath made you bishops, to feed the church of the Lord which he purchased with his own blood. I know that after my departing grievous wolves shall enter in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Wherefore watch ye, remembering that by the space of three years I ceased not to admonish every one night and day with tears. And now I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you the inheritance among all them that are sanctified. I coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel. Ye yourselves know that these hands ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me. In all things I gave you an example, that so laboring ye ought to help the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that he himself said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

*Then another shall read:*

*The Gospel. John 21. 15-17*

So when they had broken their fast, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, *son* of John, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith to him again a second time, Simon, *son* of John, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Tend my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, *son* of John, lovest thou

me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

*Or this:*

Matthew 28. 18-20

And Jesus came to them and spake unto them, saying, All authority hath been given unto me in heaven and on earth. Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.

*After the Gospel and the Sermon are ended, the Elected Person shall be presented by two Elders unto the Bishop, the Elders saying:*

We present unto you this Elder chosen to be consecrated a Bishop.

*Then the Bishop shall call upon the Congregation present to pray, saying:*

Brethren, it is written in the Gospel of Saint Luke, that our Saviour Christ continued the whole night in prayer, before he did choose and send forth his twelve apostles. It is written also in the Acts of the Apostles, that the disciples who were at Antioch did fast and pray, before they laid hands on Paul and Barnabas, and sent them forth on their first mission to the Gentiles. Let us, therefore, following the example of our Saviour Christ, and his Apostles, give

ourselves to prayer, before we admit and send forth *this person* presented to us, to the work whereunto we trust the Holy Spirit hath called him.

*Then shall the following Prayer be offered by the Bishop:*

Almighty God, giver of all good things, who by thy Holy Spirit hast appointed divers officers in thy Church: mercifully behold *this thy servant* now called to the Work and Ministry of a Bishop. Replenish *him* so with the truth of thy doctrine, and adorn *him* with innocency of life, that both by word and deed *he* may faithfully serve thee in this office, to the glory of thy name, and the edifying and well governing of thy Church, through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, world without end. *Amen.*

*Then the Bishop shall say to him that is to be Consecrated:*

*Brother*, forasmuch as the Holy Scriptures command that we should not be hasty in laying on hands and admitting any person to government in the Church of Christ, which he hath purchased with no less price than the shedding of his own blood; before you are admitted to this administration, you will, in the fear of God, give answer to the questions which I now propound:

*The Bishop.* Are you persuaded that you are truly called to this Ministration, according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ?

*Answer.* **I am so, persuaded.**

*The Bishop.* Are you persuaded that the Holy

Scriptures contain all doctrine required of necessity for eternal salvation, through faith in Jesus Christ? And are you determined out of the same Holy Scriptures to instruct the people committed to your charge, and to teach or maintain nothing as required of necessity to eternal salvation, but that which you shall be persuaded may be concluded and proved by the same?

*Answer.* **I am so persuaded and determined, by God's grace.**

*The Bishop.* Will you then faithfully exercise *yourself* in the same Holy Scriptures, and call upon God by prayer for the true understanding of the same?

*Answer.* **I will do so, by the help of God.**

*The Bishop.* Will you be ready with faithful diligence to withstand, and to defend the Church against all erroneous and strange doctrines contrary to God's Word and to use both public and private monitions as need shall require and occasion be given?

*Answer.* **I am ready, the Lord being my helper.**

*The Bishop.* Will you deny all ungodliness and worldly lust, and live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world, that you may show *yourself* in all things an example of good works unto others, to the honor and glory of God?

*Answer.* **I will so do, the Lord being my helper.**

*The Bishop.* Will you maintain and set forward, as much as lieth in you, quietness, love, and peace among all men; and faithfully exercise such discipline in the Church, as shall be committed unto you?

*Answer.* **I will so do, by the help of God.**

*The Bishop.* Will you be faithful in ordaining and

appointing others; and will you ever seek to deal justly and kindly with your brethren of the ministry over whom you are placed as chief pastor?

*Answer.* **I will, by the help of God.**

*The Bishop.* Will you show *yourself* gentle, and be merciful for Christ's sake to poor and needy people, and to all strangers destitute of help?

*Answer.* **I will so show myself, by God's help.**

*Then the Bishop shall say:*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who hath given you a good will to do all these things, grant also unto you strength and power to perform the same, that, he accomplishing in you the good work which he hath begun, you may be found blameless at the last day, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

[After this the Congregation shall be desired secretly in their Prayers to make their humble supplications to God for all these things; for the which Prayers there shall be silence kept for a space.]

*Then shall Veni, Creator, Spiritus, be said:*

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,  
**And lighten with celestial fire.**  
 Thou the anointing Spirit art,  
**Who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.**  
 Thy blessed unction from above  
**Is comfort, life, and fire of love.**

Enable with perpetual light  
**The dullness of our blinded sight;**  
 Anoint and cheer our soiled face  
**With the abundance of thy grace;**  
 Keep far our foes, give peace at home;  
**Where thou art Guide, no ill can come.**

Teach us to know the Father, Son,  
**And thee, of both, to be but ONE;**  
That through the ages all along  
**This may be our endless song:**  
Praise to thy eternal merit,  
**Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

*That ended, the Bishop shall say:*  
Lord, hear our prayer.

Response: **And let our cry come unto thee.**

*The Bishop shall then say:*

Let us pray.

Almighty and Most Merciful Father, who of thine infinite goodness hast given thine only and dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ to be our Redeemer, and the author of everlasting life; who, after he had made perfect our redemption by his death, and was ascended into heaven, poured down his gifts abundantly upon men, making some Apostles, some Prophets, some Evangelists, some Pastors and Teachers, to the edifying and making perfect of his Church: grant, we beseech thee, to *this thy servant*, such grace that *he* may evermore be ready to spread abroad thy Gospel, the glad tidings of reconciliation with thee, and use the authority given *him*, not to destruction, but to salvation; not to hurt, but to help; so that as *a* wise and faithful *servant*, giving to the family their portion in due season, *he* may at last be received into everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who, with thee and the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

*Then the Bishops and Elders present shall lay their hands upon the head of the Elected Persons, kneeling before them, the consecrating Bishop saying:*

The Lord pour upon thee the Holy Spirit for the office and work of a Bishop in the Church of God, now committed unto thee by the authority of the Church through the imposition of our hands, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.* And remember that thou stir up the grace of God which is in thee; for God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and love, and of a sound mind.

*Then shall the Bishop deliver to him the Bible, saying:*

Give heed unto reading, exhortation, and doctrine. Think upon the things contained in this book. Be diligent in them, that the increase coming thereby may be manifest unto all men. Take heed unto thyself, and to thy doctrine; for by so doing thou shalt both save thyself and them that hear thee. Be to the flock of Christ a shepherd, not a wolf; feed them, devour them not. Hold up the weak, heal the sick, bind up the broken, bring again the outcast, seek the lost; be so merciful that you may not be too remiss; so minister discipline that you forget not mercy; that when the chief Shepherd shall appear, you may receive the never-fading crown of glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Then shall be offered the following Prayers:*

Most Merciful Father, we beseech thee to send down upon *this thy servant* thy heavenly blessing. Endue *him* with thy Holy Spirit that, preaching thy

word, and exercising authority in thy Church, *he* may not only reprove, beseech, and rebuke with all patience and doctrine, but also may be *a wholesome example* in word, in conversation, in love, in faith, and in purity; so that, faithfully fulfilling *his* course, *he* may receive the crown of righteousness laid up by the Lord, the righteous Judge, who liveth and reigneth, one God with the Father and the Holy Spirit, world without end. *Amen.*

Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy name; and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

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### ¶ 534. Form of Ordaining Elders

[When the day appointed by the Bishop is come, a sermon or exhortation may be given, declaring the Duty and Office of such as come to be admitted Elders.]

*After which, one of the Elders shall present unto the Bishop all them that are to be Ordained, and say:*

I present unto you these persons to be ordained as  
Elders.

*Then, their names having been read aloud, the Bishop shall say to the People:*

BRETHREN, these are they whom we purpose, God

willing, this day to ordain Elders. For after due examination, we find not to the contrary, but that they are lawfully called to this function and ministry, and that they are persons meet for the same. But if there be any of you who knoweth any crime or impediment in any of them, for the which he ought not to be received into this holy Ministry, let him come forth in the name of God, and show what the crime or impediment is.<sup>1</sup>

*Then shall be said the Collect, Epistle, and Gospel, as followeth:*

*The Collect*

Almighty God, Giver of all good things, who by thy Holy Spirit hast appointed divers orders of ministers in thy Church: mercifully behold these thy servants now called to the Office of Elders, and so replenish them with the truth of thy doctrine, and adorn them with innocency of life, that both by word and good example they may faithfully serve thee in this Office, to the glory of thy name, and the edification of the Church, through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, world without end. *Amen.*

*The Epistle. Ephesians 4. 7, 8, 11-13*

But unto each one of us was the grace given according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore he saith,

When he ascended on high, he led captivity captive,  
And gave gifts unto men.

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<sup>1</sup> If any crime or impediment be alleged, the Bishop shall desist from ordaining that person until such time as the party accused shall be found clear of the same.

And he gave some *to be* apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, unto the work of ministering, unto the building up of the body of Christ: till we all attain unto the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a fullgrown man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

*After this shall be read for the Gospel part of the tenth chapter of Saint John:*

John 10. 1, 2, 7-16

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the fold of the sheep, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.

I am the door of the sheep. All that came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door; by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and go out, and shall find pasture. The thief cometh not, but that he may steal, and kill, and destroy: I came that they may have life, and may have *it* abundantly. I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd layeth down his life for the sheep. He that is a hireling, and not a shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, beholdeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth, and the wolf snatcheth them, and scattereth *them*: *he fleeth* because he is a hireling, and careth not for the sheep. I am the good shepherd; and I know mine own, and mine own know me, even as the Father knoweth me, and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And other

sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and they shall become one flock, one shepherd.

*Then the Bishop shall say unto the Persons to be Ordained Elders:*

You have heard, brethren, in your private examination, and in the holy lessons taken out of the gospel and the writings of the apostles, of how great importance this Office is whereunto ye are called. And now again we exhort you, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye have in remembrance into how high a dignity and to how weighty an Office ye are called: that is to say, to be messengers, watchmen, and stewards of the Lord; to teach and to admonish, to feed and provide for, the Lord's family; to gather the outcasts, to seek the lost, and to be ever ready to spread abroad the gospel, the glad tidings of reconciliation with God.

Have always therefore printed in your remembrance how great a treasure is committed to your charge. For they are the sheep of Christ, which he bought with his death and for whom he shed his blood. The Church which you must serve is his spouse and his body. And if it shall happen, the same Church, or any member thereof, do take any hurt or hindrance by reason of your negligence, ye know the greatness of the fault, and also the fearful punishment that will ensue. Wherefore consider with yourselves the purpose of the ministry toward the children of God, toward the spouse and body of Christ; and see that you never cease your labor, your care and diligence, until you have done all that lieth in you, according to your bounden duty, to bring all

such as shall be committed to your charge unto that faith and knowledge of God, and to that ripeness and perfectness in Christ, that there be no place left among you either for error in religion or for viciousness in life.

Forasmuch then as your office is both of so great excellency, and of so great difficulty, consider how studious ye ought to be in reading and learning the Scriptures, and in framing the manners, both of yourselves and of them that specially pertain unto you; and how ye ought to forsake and set aside, as much as you may, all worldly cares and studies.

We have good hope that you have weighed and pondered these things with yourselves long before this time: and that you have clearly determined, by God's grace, to give yourselves wholly to this Office; whereunto it has pleased God to call you: that, as much as lieth in you, you will apply yourselves wholly to this one thing, and draw all your cares and studies this way; that you will continually pray to God the Father, by the mediation of our only Saviour Jesus Christ, for the assistance of the Holy Spirit; that by daily reading and weighing of the Scriptures ye may wax riper and stronger in your ministry; and that ye may so endeavor to sanctify the lives of you and yours after the rule and doctrine of Christ, that ye may be wholesome and godly examples and patterns for the people to follow.

And now, that this present congregation of Christ here assembled may also understand your minds and wills in these things, and that this your promise may the more move you to do your duties, you shall answer plainly to these things which we, in the name

of God and his Church, shall demand of you touching the same:

*The Bishop.* Do you think in your heart that you are truly called, according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, to the order of Elders?

*Answer.* **I think so.**

*The Bishop.* Are you persuaded that the Holy Scriptures contain all doctrine required of necessity for eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ? And are you determined out of the said Scriptures to instruct the people committed to your charge, and to teach nothing as required of necessity to eternal salvation but that which you shall be persuaded may be concluded and proved by the Scriptures?

*Answer.* **I am so persuaded, and have so determined, by God's grace.**

*The Bishop.* Will you then give your faithful diligence always so to minister the doctrine, and sacraments, and discipline of Christ, as the Lord hath commanded?

*Answer.* **I will so do, by the help of the Lord.**

*The Bishop.* Will you be ready with all faithful diligence to withstand all erroneous and strange doctrines contrary to God's Word; and to use both public and private monitions and exhortations as need shall require and occasion shall be given?

*Answer.* **I will, the Lord being my helper.**

*The Bishop.* Will you be diligent in prayer, in reading of the Holy Scriptures, and in such studies as help to the knowledge of God and of his Kingdom?

*Answer.* **I will endeavor so to do, the Lord being my helper.**

*The Bishop.* Will you be diligent to frame and fashion yourselves, and your families, according to

the doctrine of Christ; and to make both yourselves and them, as much as lieth in you, wholesome examples and patterns to the flock of Christ?

*Answer.* **I will apply myself thereto, the Lord being my helper.**

*The Bishop.* Will you maintain and set forward, as much as lieth in you, quietness, peace, and love, among all Christian people, and especially among them that shall be committed to your charge?

*Answer.* **I will so do, the Lord being my helper.**

*The Bishop.* Will you reverently obey your chief Ministers, unto whom is committed the charge and government over you, following with a glad mind and will their godly admonitions, submitting yourselves to their godly judgments?

*Answer.* **I will so do, the Lord being my helper.**

*Then shall the Bishop say:*

Almighty God, who hath given you this will to do all these things, grant also unto you strength and power to perform the same; that he may accomplish his work which he hath begun in you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

[After this the Congregation shall be desired secretly in their Prayers to make their humble supplications to God for all these things: for the which Prayers there shall be silence kept for a space.]

*After which shall be said by the Bishop, the Persons to be ordained Elders all kneeling, Veni, Creator Spiritus, the Bishop beginning, and the Elders and others that are present answering by verse as followeth:*

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,  
And lighten with celestial fire.

Thou the anointing Spirit art,  
**Who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.**  
Thy blessed unction from above  
**Is comfort, life, and fire of love.**

Enable with perpetual light  
**The dullness of our blinded sight;**  
Anoint and cheer our soiled face  
**With the abundance of thy grace;**  
Keep far our foes, give peace at home;  
**Where thou art Guide, no ill can come.**

Teach us to know the Father, Son,  
**And thee, of both, to be but ONE;**  
That through the ages all along  
**This may be our endless song:**  
Praise to thy eternal merit,  
**Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

*Then the Bishop shall pray in this wise, and say:*  
Let us pray.

Almighty God our heavenly Father, we bless and magnify thy holy name for the gift of thy most dearly beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, and for all his Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Teachers, and Pastors, whom he sent abroad into the world. For these so great benefits of thy eternal goodness, and that thou hast called these thy servants here present to the same holy Office and Ministry, we render unto thee our most hearty thanks. And now, O Lord, we most humbly beseech thee to grant that by these thy Ministers, and by those over whom they shall be appointed, thy holy name may be forever glorified, and thy blessed kingdom enlarged, through

thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, world without end. *Amen.*

*Then the Bishop and the Elders present shall lay their hands severally upon the head of every one that receiveth the Order of Elders; the Receivers humbly kneeling, and the Bishop saying:*

The Lord pour upon thee the Holy Spirit for the office and work of an Elder in the Church of God, now committed unto thee by the authority of the Church, through the imposition of our hands. And be thou a faithful dispenser of the Word of God, and of his Holy Sacraments; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

*Then the Bishop shall deliver to every one of them, kneeling, the Bible into his hands, saying:*

Take thou authority as an Elder in the Church, to preach the Word of God, and to administer the Holy Sacraments in the Congregation.

*Then the Bishop shall offer the following Prayer:*

Most Merciful Father, we beseech thee to send upon these thy servants thy heavenly blessings, that they may be clothed with righteousness, and that thy word spoken by their mouths may never be spoken in vain. Grant also that we may have grace to receive what they shall deliver out of thy Word as the means of our salvation; and that in all our words and deeds we may seek thy glory, and the increase of thy kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings, with thy

most gracious favor, and further us by thy continual help; that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

[If on the same day the Order of Deacons be given to some, and that of Elders to others, the Deacons shall be first presented, and then the Elders. The Collects shall both be used; first that for Deacons, then that for Elders. The Epistle shall be Ephesians 4, as before in this office; immediately after which, they who are to be ordained Deacons shall be examined and ordained as is below prescribed. Then the Gospel having been read, which shall be John 10, as before in this office, they who are to be ordained Elders shall likewise be examined and ordained, as in this office before appointed.]

### ¶ 535. Form of Ordaining Deacons

[When the day appointed by the Bishop is come, a sermon or exhortation may be given, declaring the Duty and Office of such as come to be admitted to the Order of Deacons.]

*After which, one of the Elders shall present unto the Bishop all them that are to be Ordained, and say:*

I present unto you these persons to be ordained as  
Deacons.

*Then, their names having been read aloud, the Bishop shall say to the People:*

BRETHREN, these are they whom we purpose, God willing, this day to ordain Deacons. For after due examination, we find not to the contrary, but that

they are lawfully called to this function and ministry, and that they are persons meet for the same. But if there be any of you who knoweth any crime or impediment in any of them, for the which he ought not to be received into this holy Ministry, let him come forth in the name of God, and show what the crime or impediment is.

[If any crime or impediment be alleged, the Bishop shall desist from ordaining that person, until such time as the party accused shall be found clear of the same.]

*Then shall be read the following Collect and Epistle:*

*The Collect*

Almighty God, who by thy divine providence hast appointed divers Orders of Ministers in thy Church, and didst inspire thy Apostles to choose into the Order of Deacons thy first martyr, Saint Stephen, with others: mercifully behold these thy servants, now called to the like Office and Administration; so replenish them with the truth of thy doctrine, and adorn them with innocency of life, that both by word and good example they may faithfully serve thee in this Office to the glory of thy name, and the edification of thy Church, through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. *Amen.*

*The Epistle. 1 Timothy 3. 8-13*

Deacons in like manner *must be* grave, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. And let these also first be proved; then let them serve as deacons, if they be blameless. Women in like manner *must be* grave, not slanderers,

temperate, faithful in all things. Let deacons be husbands of one wife, ruling *their* children and their own houses well. For they that have served well as deacons gain to themselves a good standing, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

*Then shall the Bishop, in the presence of the People, examine every one of those who are to be Ordained, after this manner following:*

*The Bishop.* Do you trust that you are inwardly moved by the Holy Spirit to take upon you the office of the Ministry in the Church of Christ, to serve God for the promoting of his glory and the edifying of his people?

*Answer.* **I trust so.**

*The Bishop.* Do you unfeignedly believe all the canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments?

*Answer.* **I do believe them.**

*The Bishop.* Will you diligently read and expound the same unto the people whom you shall be appointed to serve?

*Answer.* **I will.**

*The Bishop.* It appertaineth to the office of a Deacon to assist the Elder in divine service, and especially when he ministereth the Holy Communion, to help him in the distribution thereof; to read and expound the Holy Scriptures; to instruct the youth; and to baptize. And furthermore, it is his office to search for the sick, poor, and impotent, that they may be visited and relieved. Will you do this gladly and willingly?

*Answer.* **I will do so, by the help of God.**

*The Bishop.* Will you apply all your diligence to frame and fashion your own lives and the lives of

your families according to the doctrine of Christ; and to make both yourselves and them, as much as in you lieth, wholesome examples of the flock of Christ?

*Answer.* **I will do so, the Lord being my helper.**

*The Bishop.* Will you reverently obey them to whom the charge and government over you is committed, following with a glad mind and will their godly admonitions?

*Answer.* **I will endeavor so to do, the Lord being my helper.**

*Then the Bishop, laying his hands severally upon the head of every one of them, shall say:*

Take thou authority to execute the office of a Deacon in the Church of God; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

*Then shall the Bishop deliver to every one of them the Bible, saying:*

Take thou authority to read the Holy Scriptures in the Church of God, and to preach the Word.

*Then one appointed by the Bishop shall read the Gospel:*

Luke 12. 35-38

Let your loins be girded about, and your lamps burning; and be ye yourselves like unto men looking for their lord, when he shall return from the marriage feast; that, when he cometh and knocketh, they may straightway open unto him. Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find

watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them sit down to meat, and shall come and serve them. And if he shall come in the second watch, and if in the third, and find *them* so, blessed are those *servants*.

*Immediately before the Benediction shall be said these Collects following:*

Almighty God, Giver of all good things, who of thy great goodness hast vouchsafed to accept and take these thy servants into the office of Deacons in thy Church: make them, we beseech thee, O Lord, to be modest, humble, and constant in their ministration, and to have a ready will to observe all spiritual discipline; that they, continuing ever stable and strong in thy Son Jesus Christ, may so well behave themselves in this office that they may be found worthy to be called into the higher Ministries in thy Church, through thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ: to whom be glory and honor, world without end. *Amen.*

Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings, with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help; that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

¶ 536. **Form for Consecration of Deaconesses**

*The following Order of Service may be preceded by a sermon or address, with such other exercises as may be desired; after which the President of the Conference Deaconess Board, or some one named, shall present those to be consecrated Deaconesses to the Bishop or other Consecrator.*

*Then shall be sung Hymn 423 or other appropriate Hymn*

*Then shall the following Scripture be read by the Leader, or by the Leader and Congregation responsively:*

Matthew 25. 31-40

But when the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the angels with him, then shall he sit on the throne of his glory:

**And before him shall be gathered all the nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as the shepherd separateth the sheep from the goats;**

And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

**Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:**

For I was hungry, and ye gave me to eat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink; I was a stranger, and ye took me in;

**Naked, and ye clothed me; I was sick, and ye visited me; I was in prison, and ye came unto me.**

Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee hungry, and fed thee? or athirst, and gave thee drink?

**And when saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?**

And when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

**And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of these my brethren, even these least, ye did it unto me.**

#### HYMN

[Or other selection from The Hymnal, if preferred.]

Take my life and let it be  
Consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
Take my hands and let them move  
At the impulse of thy love.

Take my feet and let them be  
Swift and beautiful for thee;  
Take my voice and let me sing  
Always, only, for my King.

Take my will and make it thine,  
It shall be no longer mine;  
Take my heart, it is thine own,  
It shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love, my God, I pour  
At thy feet its treasure store;  
Take myself, and I will be  
Ever, only, all for thee.

*After which the Consecrator shall say:*

Let us pray.

O eternal God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who didst call Phœbe and Dorcas into the service of thy Church, look upon *these thy servants* who are now to be set apart to the office of Deaconess, and grant *them* thy Holy Spirit, that *they* may worthily discharge the work committed to *them*, to the blessing of mankind and the praise of thy Christ, our adorable Saviour. *Amen.*

*Then shall the Consecrator address the Candidates, saying:*

Dearly Beloved, we rejoice with you, that in the good providence of God a door of usefulness has been opened for you in the service of the Church of Christ. To you are accorded peculiar privileges and priceless opportunities. Released from other cares, you are to give yourselves without reservation to the service of the Lord of the vineyard, ready for any duty which may fall to your lot. Like our gracious Master, you will henceforth go about doing good, ministering to the wants of a suffering, sorrowing, and sin-laden world. The Church now solemnly sets you apart for this special service. You are to minister to the poor, visit the sick, pray with the dying, care for the orphan, seek the wandering, comfort the sorrowing, and save the sinning. Such service is one which confers a great honor, but also lays upon you a solemn responsibility. What you have done alone with God, in consecrating your lives to this service, you are now to do formally and publicly in the presence of the Church.

*Consecrator.* Do you believe that you have been led by the providence of God to engage in this work, and to assume the duties of this office?

*Answer.* I do.

*Consecrator.* Do you, in the presence of God and of this congregation, promise faithfully to perform the duties of a Deaconess in the Church of God?

*Answer.* I do.

*Consecrator.* Do you fully accept the Holy Scriptures as the Word of God?

*Answer.* I do.

*Consecrator.* Will you strive so to live that you may convey the blessed sense of God's presence to the hearts and homes of those to whom you minister?

*Answer.* I will.

*Consecrator.* Will you cheerfully accept the direction of those whom the Church may set over you in the prosecution of this work?

*Answer.* I will.

*Then shall the Candidates kneel for a brief season in silent Prayer, after which the Consecrator shall say:*

May the Spirit of the Living God descend upon you and abide with you evermore. May he impart to you grace for every trial, and strength for every service. May his presence be to you a pillar of cloud by day, and a pillar of fire by night; and may the blessing of God the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit be with you now and evermore. *Amen.*

*Then shall the Candidates rise, and the Consecrator, taking the right hand of each one, shall say:*

I admit thee to the office of a Deaconess in the

Church of God, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

*Then shall be sung Hymn 411, or other suitable Hymn, followed by the Benediction*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

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## CHAPTER VII

### CORNER STONE AND DEDICATION

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#### ¶ 537. Form for Laying the Corner Stone of a Church

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*The Minister, standing near the place where the Stone is to be laid, shall say unto the Congregation:*

DEARLY BELOVED, we are taught in the Word of God, that, although the heaven of heavens cannot contain the Eternal One, much less the walls of temples made with hands, yet his delight is ever with the sons of men, and that wherever two or three are gathered in his name, there is he in the midst of them. And in all ages his servants have separated certain places for his worship: as Jacob erected a stone in Bethel for God's house; as Moses made a tabernacle in the desert; as Solomon builded a temple for the Lord, which he filled with the glory of his presence before all the people. We are now assembled to lay the Corner Stone of a new house for the worship of the

God of our fathers. Let us not doubt that he will favorably approve our godly purpose, and let us now devoutly unite in singing his praise, and in prayer for his blessing on this our undertaking.

*Let one of the Hymns 656-666, from The Hymnal, be sung.*

*Then shall the Minister say:*

Let us pray.

Most glorious God, the heaven is thy throne and the earth is thy footstool; what house then can be builded for thee, or where is the place of thy rest? Yet, blessed be thy name, O Lord God, that it hath pleased thee to have thy habitation among the sons of men, and to dwell in the midst of the assembly of the saints upon the earth. And now, especially, we render thanks unto thy holy name that it hath pleased thee to put it into the hearts of thy servants to erect in this place a house for thy worship. We thank thee for thy grace which has inclined them to contribute of their substance for the glory of thy name: and we pray thee to continue thy blessing upon their pious undertaking. *Amen.*

Grant, O Lord, we beseech thee, that peace and harmony may prevail in the counsels of thy servants, and that no selfish or divided aims may find place among them. May the work of this building be completed without hurt or accident to any person, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Grant that all who shall hereafter worship thee in the temple here to be builded, may so serve and please thee in all holy exercises of godliness, that in the end they may come to that temple on high, even to

the holy place made without hands, whose builder and maker is God. *Amen.*

Accept these our prayers, we beseech thee, O Lord, for the sake of thy dear Son; and to thee, the only true and living God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be honor, praise, and glory, forever and ever. *Amen.*

*Then shall the Minister read the following Psalm, or the Minister and People may read it in alternate verses:*

Psalm 132, 1-9, 13-16

Lord, remember David, and all his afflictions:

**How he swore unto the Lord, and vowed unto the mighty God of Jacob;**

Surely I will not come into the tabernacle of my house, nor go up into my bed;

**I will not give sleep to mine eyes, or slumber to mine eyelids,**

Until I find out a place for the Lord, a habitation for the mighty God of Jacob.

**Lo, we heard of it at Ephratah: we found it in the fields of the wood.**

We will go into his tabernacles: we will worship at his footstool.

**Arise, O Lord, into thy rest; thou, and the ark of thy strength.**

Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness; and let thy saints shout for joy.

**For the Lord hath chosen Zion; he hath desired it for his habitation.**

This is my rest for ever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it.

**I will abundantly bless her provision: I will satisfy her poor with bread.**

I will also clothe her priests with salvation: and her saints shall shout aloud for joy.

*The Lesson.* 1 Corinthians 3. 9-17

For we are God's fellow-workers: ye are God's husbandry, God's building. According to the grace of God which was given unto me, as a wise master-builder I laid a foundation; and another buildeth thereon. But let each man take heed how he buildeth thereon. For other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. But if any man buildeth on the foundation gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay, stubble; each man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it is revealed in fire; and the fire itself shall prove each man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work shall abide which he built thereon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as through fire. Know ye not that ye are a temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man destroyeth the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, and such are ye.

*Then shall follow the Sermon, or an address suitable to the occasion, after which the Contributions of the People shall be received.*

[Then shall the minister, standing by the stone, exhibit to the Congregation a box to be placed in an excavation of the stone. It may contain a copy of the Bible, the Hymn Book, the Discipline, the Church Year Book for the year, Church periodicals of recent date, the names of the pastors, trustees, and building committee of the Church, with such other documents as may be desired. A list of these may be read, after which the Minister shall deposit the box in the stone and cover it; and the stone shall be laid and adjusted by the Minister, assisted by the Builder.]

*Then shall the Minister say:*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we lay this corner stone for the foundation of a house to be builded and consecrated to the service of Almighty God according to the order and usages of the Methodist Episcopal Church. *Amen.*

*Here may be offered extemporary prayer.*

*Then shall the Minister and the People say:*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*The service shall conclude with a Doxology and the Benediction.*

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**¶ 538. Form for the Dedication of a Church**

*The Congregation being assembled in the Church, the Minister shall say:*

DEARLY BELOVED, the Scriptures teach us that God is well pleased with those who build temples to his name. We have heard how he filled the temple of Solomon with his glory and how in the second temple he manifested himself still more gloriously. And the gospel approves and commends the centurion who built a synagogue for the people. Let us not doubt that he will also favorably approve our purpose of

dedicating this place in solemn manner, for the performance of the several offices of religious worship; and let us now devoutly join in praise to his name, that this godly undertaking hath been so far completed, and in prayer for his further blessing upon all who have been engaged therein, and upon all who shall hereafter worship his name in this place.

*Let one of the Hymns 656-666, from The Hymnal, be sung. Afterward let extemporary Prayer be offered, concluding with the Lord's Prayer, the Congregation all kneeling.*

*Then shall the Minister, or some one appointed by him, read:*

*The First Lesson. 2 Chronicles 6. 1, 2, 18-21, 40-42;  
7. 1-4*

Then spake Solomon, Jehovah hath said that he would dwell in the thick darkness. But I have built thee a house of habitation, and a place for thee to dwell in for ever.

But will God in very deed dwell with men on the earth? behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house which I have builded! Yet have thou respect unto the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplication, O Jehovah my God, to hearken unto the cry and to the prayer which thy servant prayeth before thee; that thine eyes may be open toward this house day and night, even toward the place whereof thou hast said that thou wouldest put thy name there; to hearken unto the prayer which thy servant shall pray toward this place. And hearken thou to the supplications of thy servant, and of thy people Israel,

when they shall pray toward this place: yea, hear thou from thy dwelling-place, even from heaven; and when thou hearest, forgive.

Now, O my God, let, I beseech thee, thine eyes be open, and let thine ears be attent, unto the prayer that is made in this place. Now therefore arise, O Jehovah God, into thy resting-place, thou, and the ark of thy strength: let thy priests, O Jehovah God, be clothed with salvation, and let thy saints rejoice in goodness. O Jehovah God, turn not away the face of thine anointed: remember *thy* lovingkindnesses to David thy servant.

Now when Solomon had made an end of praying, the fire came down from heaven, and consumed the burnt-offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of Jehovah filled the house. And the priests could not enter into the house of Jehovah, because the glory of Jehovah filled Jehovah's house. And all the children of Israel looked on, when the fire came down, and the glory of Jehovah was upon the house; and they bowed themselves with their faces to the ground upon the pavement, and worshiped, and gave thanks unto Jehovah, *saying*, For he is good; for his lovingkindness *endureth* for ever. Then the king and all the people offered sacrifice before Jehovah.

*The Second Lesson.* Hebrews 10. 19-25

Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holy place by the blood of Jesus, by the way which he dedicated for us, a new and living way, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; and *having* a great priest over the house of God; let us draw near with a true heart in fulness of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience: and

having our body washed with pure water, let us hold fast the confession of our hope that it waver not; for he is faithful that promised: and let us consider one another to provoke unto love and good works; not forsaking our own assembling together, as the custom of some is, but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as ye see the day drawing nigh.

*Then shall one of the Hymns 656-666, from The Hymnal, be sung; after which the Minister shall deliver a Sermon suitable to the occasion. Contributions shall then be received from the People.*

*Then shall the Minister read the following Psalm, or the Minister and the Congregation may read it alternately:*

Psalm 122

I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.

**Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.**

Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together:

**Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord.**

For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.**

Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces.

**For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee.**

Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek thy good.

*Then let the Trustees stand up before the Altar, and one of them, or some one in their behalf, say unto the Minister:*

We present unto you this building, to be dedicated as a church for the worship and service of Almighty God.

*Then shall the Minister request the Congregation to stand, while he repeats the following Declaration:*

Dearly Beloved, it is meet and right, as we learn from the Holy Scriptures, that houses erected for the public worship of God should be specially set apart and dedicated to religious uses. For such a dedication we are now assembled. With gratitude, therefore, to Almighty God, who has signally blessed his servants in their holy enterprise of erecting this church, we dedicate it to his service, for the reading of the Holy Scriptures, the preaching of the Word of God, the administration of the Holy Sacraments, and for all other exercises of religious worship and service, according to the Discipline and Usages of the Methodist Episcopal Church. And, as the dedication of the temple is vain without the solemn consecration of the worshipers also, let us now dedicate ourselves anew to the service of God. To him let our souls be dedicated, that they may be renewed after the image of Christ. To him let our bodies be dedicated, that they may be fit temples for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. To him may our labors and business be dedicated, that their fruit may tend to the glory

of his great name, and to the advancement of his kingdom.

*Then shall the Minister say these words of Dedication, all the People standing and responding in the words printed in black face type:*

O God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our Father:

**To thee we dedicate this church.**

Son of God, the Only Begotten of the Father, Head over all things to the Church, which is thy Body: Prophet, Priest, Redeemer, and King of thy people:

**To thee we dedicate this church.**

God the Holy Spirit, proceeding from the Father and the Son, our Teacher, Sanctifier, and Comforter:

**To thee we dedicate this church.**

Eternal, Holy, and Glorious Trinity, three Persons, one God.

**To thee we dedicate this church.**

*Then, the Congregation kneeling, the Minister shall offer the following Prayer:*

O Most Glorious Lord, we acknowledge that we are not worthy to offer unto thee anything belonging unto us; yet we beseech thee, in thy great goodness, graciously to accept the dedication of this place to thy service, and to prosper this our undertaking. Receive the prayers and intercessions of all those thy servants who shall call upon thee in this house; and give them grace to prepare their hearts to serve thee with reverence and godly fear. Affect them with a due apprehension of thy divine majesty, and a deep sense of their own unworthiness; that so approaching thy sanctuary with lowliness and devotion, and com-

ing before thee with clean thoughts and pure hearts, with bodies undefiled, and minds sanctified, they may always perform a service acceptable to thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Regard, O Lord, the supplication of thy servants, that whosoever shall be dedicated to thee in this house by Baptism may ever remain in the number of thy faithful children. *Amen.*

Grant, O Lord, that whosoever shall receive in this place the blessed Sacrament of the body and blood of Christ may come to that holy Ordinance with faith, charity, and true repentance; and, being filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, may, to their great and endless comfort, obtain forgiveness of their sins, and all other benefits of his passion. *Amen.*

Grant, O Lord, that by thy Holy Word which shall be read and preached in this place, and by thy Holy Spirit grafting it inwardly in the heart, the hearers thereof may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and may have power and strength to perform the same. *Amen.*

Now, therefore, arise O Lord, and come into this place of thy rest, thou and the ark of thy strength. Let thine eye be open toward this house day and night; and let thine ears be ready toward the prayers of thy children, which they shall make unto thee in this place. And whensoever thy servants shall make to thee their petitions here, do thou hear them from heaven, thy dwelling place, the throne of the glory of thy kingdom; and when thou hearest, forgive. Grant, O Lord, we beseech thee, that here and elsewhere thy ministers may be clothed with righteousness, and thy saints rejoice in thy salvation. And may we all, with thy people everywhere, grow up into

a holy temple in the Lord, and be at last received into the glorious temple above; the house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. And to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be glory and praise, world without end. *Amen.*

*The service shall conclude with a Doxology and Benediction.*

NOTE.—The Central Conference of Southern Asia is authorized to prepare and translate into the vernaculars simplified and adapted forms of such parts of the Ritual as may be deemed necessary, such portions to receive the sanction of the Board of Bishops.

## APPENDIX

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NOTE.—The matter contained in the Appendix to the Discipline is sufficiently important to justify publication. Much of it is taken from the General Conference Journals, and is therefore the action of the General Conference. Some portions have been here inserted by specific direction; other portions are suggestive and useful, such as Post Office Addresses, Administrative Boards, Forms, and the Rules of Order of the General Conference. The Courses of Study have been prepared under the authority of the General Conference, and are inserted for convenient reference.

While unnecessary changes have been avoided, students of the Book of Discipline will note with pleasure a more distinct separation between THE CONSTITUTION and the LEGISLATION; and also the reference by paragraphs (§§) instead of pages in both the CONTENTS and the INDEX:

The statistical scheme has been greatly simplified and improved. and the Rules of Order have been restated by the Committee appointed by the General Conference.

DAVID G. DOWNEY,  
Editor.

- I. POST OFFICE ADDRESSES OF BISHOPS  
AND GENERAL OFFICERS**
- II. ADMINISTRATIVE BOARDS AND SOCIE-  
TIES**
- III. THE GENERAL CONFERENCE**
- IV. GENERAL CONFERENCE RÈPORTS AND  
RESOLUTIONS**
- V. GENERAL CONFERENCE DECISIONS**
- VI. PROPOSED CHANGES IN CONSTITUTION**
- VII. FORMS AND CONSTITUTIONS**
- VIII. COURSES OF STUDY**

## CHAPTER I

### POST OFFICE ADDRESSES OF BISHOPS AND GENERAL OFFICERS

#### ¶ 539. Bishops

Names of Retired Bishops in Italics

<i>Earl Cranston,</i>	420 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio
<i>John W. Hamilton,</i>	American University, Washington, D. C.
JOSEPH F. BERRY,	1701 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
WILLIAM F. McDOWELL	Washington, D. C.
WILLIAM BURT,	455 Franklin Street, Buffalo, New York
LUTHER B. WILSON,	150 Fifth Avenue, New York
<i>Thomas B. Neely,</i>	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
WILLIAM F. ANDERSON,	420 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio
JOHN L. NUELSEN,	Zurich, Switzerland
WILLIAM A. QUAYLE,	Saint Louis, Missouri
WILSON S. LEWIS,	Peking, China
EDWIN H. HUGHES,	235 Summer Street, Malden, Massachusetts
FRANK M. BRISTOL,	Chattanooga, Tennessee
HOMER C. STUNTZ,	Omaha, Nebraska
THEODORE S. HENDERSON,	Detroit, Michigan
WILLIAM O. SHEPARD,	Portland, Oregon
FRANCIS J. McCONNELL,	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
FREDERICK D. LEETE,	Indianapolis, Indiana
<i>Richard J. Cooke,</i>	Athens, Tennessee
WILBUR P. THIRKIELD,	Mexico City, Mexico
HERBERT WELCH,	Seoul, Korea
THOMAS NICHOLSON,	58 East Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois
ADNA W. LEONARD,	3 City Hall Avenue, San Francisco, California
WILLIAM F. OLDHAM,	Buenos Ayres, Argentine, South America
CHARLES B. MITCHELL,	• Saint Paul, Minnesota
FRANCIS W. WARNE,	Lucknow, India
JOHN W. ROBINSON,	Colaba, Bombay, India
EBEN S. JOHNSON,	Capetown, South Africa
LAURESS J. BIRNEY,	Shanghai, China
FREDERICK B. FISHER,	Calcutta, India
ERNEST L. WALDORF,	Wichita, Kansas
CHARLES E. LOCKE,	Manila, Philippine Islands

ERNEST G. RICHARDSON,	Atlanta, Georgia
CHARLES W. BURNS,	Helena, Montana
ANTON BAST,	Copenhagen, Denmark
EDGAR BLAKE,	Paris, France
GEORGE H. BICKLEY,	Singapore, Straits Settlement
FREDERICK T. KEENEY,	Foochow, China
H. LESTER SMITH,	Bangalore, India
CHARLES L. MEAD,	Denver, Colorado
ROBERT E. JONES,	New Orleans, Louisiana
MATTHEW W. CLAIR,	Monrovia, Africa

## ¶ 540. Retired Missionary Bishops

JAMES M. THOBURN,	Meadville, Pennsylvania
JOSEPH C. HARTZELL,	420 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio
ISAIAH B. SCOTT,	125 Fourteenth Avenue North, Nashville, Tennessee
JOHN E. ROBINSON,	Bangalore, India
MERRIMAN C. HARRIS,	Tokyo, Japan

## ¶ 541. Secretary of General Conference

EDMUND M. MILLS, 101 Comstock Place, Syracuse, New York

## ¶ 542. The Methodist Book Concern

## PUBLISHING AGENTS

New York: EDWIN R. GRAHAM, 150 Fifth Avenue  
 Cincinnati: JOHN H. RACE, 420 Plum Street  
 Chicago: ROBERT H. HUGHES, 740 Rush Street

GEORGE P. MAINS, *Emeritus*, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York  
 HENRY C. JENNINGS, *Emeritus*, Route 3, Aurora, Oregon

## DEPOSITORIES

581 Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts  
 105 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
 28 East Elizabeth Street, Detroit, Michigan  
 740 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois  
 1121 McGee Street, Kansas City, Missouri  
 7 City Hall Avenue, San Francisco, California

## ¶ 543. Editors

## § 1. ELECTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

GEORGE ELLIOTT: Methodist Review, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York

JAMES R. JOY: The Christian Advocate, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York

HENRY H. MEYER: Sunday School Publications,  
420 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio  
150 Fifth Avenue, New York

JOHN J. WALLACE: Pittsburgh Christian Advocate,  
105 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

ERNEST C. WAREING: Western Christian Advocate,  
420 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio

A. J. BUCHER: Christliche Apologete-Haus und Herd,  
420 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio

E. ROBB ZARING: Northwestern Christian Advocate,  
740 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois

CLAUDIUS B. SPENCER: Central Christian Advocate,  
1121 McGee Street, Kansas City, Missouri

L. H. KING, Southwestern Christian Advocate,  
631 Baronne Street, New Orleans, Louisiana

EDWARD L. MILLS: Pacific Christian Advocate,  
Portland, Oregon

DAN B. BRUMMITT: The Epworth Herald,  
740 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois

F. M. LARKIN: California Christian Advocate,  
7 City Hall Avenue, San Francisco, California

J. M. MELEAR: Methodist Advocate Journal,  
Athens, Tennessee

## § 2. ELECTED BY THE BOOK COMMITTEE

DAVID G. DOWNEY: Book Editor,  
150 Fifth Avenue, New York  
420 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio

## ¶ 544. Corresponding Secretaries

## § 1. ELECTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

FRANK MASON NORTH, { Board of Foreign Missions,  
S. EARL TAYLOR, { 150 Fifth Avenue, New York

DAVID D. FORSYTH, { Board of Home Missions and Church Ex-  
tension,  
Seventeenth and Arch Streets, Philadel-  
phia, Pennsylvania

PATRICK J. MAVEETY, { Board of Education for Negroes,  
I. GARLAND PENN, { 420 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

ABRAM W. HARRIS: { Board of Education,  
150 Fifth Avenue, New York

- WILLIAM S. BOVARD:** Board of Sunday Schools,  
58 East Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois
- JOSEPH B. HINGELEY:** Board of Conference Claimants,  
820 Garland Building, Chicago, Illinois
- CHARLES E. GUTHRIE:** *General Secretary:* Epworth League,  
740 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois

## § 2. ELECTED BY THE BOARDS

- RAYMOND J. WADE:** Committee on Conservation and Advance,  
740 Rush Street, Chicago, Ill.
- CLARENCE TRUE WILSON:** Board of Temperance, Prohibition, and  
Public Morals,  
First and Maryland Avenues, N. E., Washington, D. C.
- DANIEL W. HOWELL:** General Deaconess Board,  
483 Ellicott Square, Buffalo, New York
- N. E. DAVIS:** Board of Hospitals and Homes,  
740 Rush Street, Chicago, Ill.

## ¶ 545. Treasurers and Assistant Treasurers

- MORRIS W. EHNS,** *Treasurer:* Committee on Conservation and  
Advance, 740 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois
- GEORGE M. FOWLES,** *Treasurer:* Board of Foreign Missions,  
150 Fifth Avenue, New York
- W. J. ELLIOTT,** *Treasurer:* Board of Home Missions and Church  
Extension,  
Arch and Seventeenth Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- JOHN H. RACE,** *Treasurer:* Board of Education for Negroes,  
420 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio
- OMAR POWELL,** *Treasurer:* Board of Education,  
150 Fifth Avenue, New York
- GEORGE P. MAINS,** *Treasurer:* Episcopal Fund,  
150 Fifth Avenue, New York
- EDWIN R. GRAHAM,** *Assistant Treasurer:* Episcopal Fund,  
150 Fifth Avenue, New York
- FRANKLIN I. BODINE,** *Treasurer:* Chartered Fund,  
129 South Fourth Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- H. A. WINANS,** *Treasurer:* Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal  
Church, 420 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio
- WILLIAM C. HANSON,** *Treasurer:* Board of Sunday Schools,  
58 E. Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois
- WILLIAM FOULKE,<sup>1</sup>** *Treasurer:* American Bible Society,  
Bible House, Astor Place, New York
- GILBERT DARLINGTON,** *Assistant Treasurer:* American Bible Society,  
Bible House, Astor Place, New York
- ROBERT W. CAMPBELL,** *Treasurer:* Board of Conference Claimants,  
820 Garland Building, Chicago, Illinois
- OSCAR P. MILLER,** *Treasurer:* General Conference Expense Fund,  
Rock Rapids, Iowa

<sup>1</sup>Deceased

- WILLIAM T. GALLIHER, *Treasurer*: Board of Temperance, Prohibition  
and Public Morals,  
First and Maryland Avenues, N. E., Washington, D. C.
- L. M. POTTER, *Treasurer*: General Deaconess Board,  
675-677 Ellicott Square, Buffalo, New York
- J. T. BRADLEY, *Treasurer*: Board of Hospitals and Homes,  
740 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois

## CHAPTER II

## ADMINISTRATIVE BOARDS AND SOCIETIES

ELECTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OR APPOINTED BY THE BISHOPS  
UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

## ¶ 546. Book Committee

## § 1. District Members

District	Name	Conference	Term Expires
I.	G. C. Douglass.....	Troy.....	1924
	Saratoga Springs, New York.		
II.	D. F. Diefendorf.....	Newark.....	1928
	East Orange, New Jersey		
III.	William A. Notman.....	Genesee.....	1924
	33 Colonial Circle, Buffalo, New York.		
IV.	W. F. Conner.....	Pittsburgh.....	1928
	The King Edward, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.		
V.	W. H. McMaster.....	North-East Ohio.....	1924
	Alliance, Ohio.		
VI.	T. H. Kiah.....	Delaware.....	1928
	Newport, Tennessee.		
VII.	M. S. Davage.....	West Texas.....	1928
	Holly Springs, Miss.		
VIII.	J. Luther Taylor.....	Kansas.....	1924
	Pittsburg, Kansas.		
IX.	H. M. Havner.....	Iowa.....	1928
	Marengo, Iowa.		
X.	C. C. Hall.....	Southern Illinois.....	1928
	1115 College Avenue, East St. Louis, Illinois		
XI.	A. L. Parker.....	Detroit.....	1924
	74 Hazelwood Avenue, Detroit, Michigan.		
XII.	J. S. Ulland.....	Northern Minnesota.....	1928
	Fergus Falls, Minnesota.		

- XIII. Charles A. J. Walker . . . Central German . . . . . 1924  
1539 Madison Avenue, Covington, Kentucky.
- XIV. Frank S. Wallace . . . . . Southern California . . . . . 1928  
1263 S. El Moline Avenue, Pasadena, California.
- XV. Charles C. Rarick . . . . . Oregon . . . . . 1924  
217 Morris Street, Portland, Oregon.

### § 2. Local Committee at New York

Name	Conference	Term Expires
M. S. Daniels . . . . . Newark, New Jersey.	Newark . . . . .	1928
Frank A. Horne . . . . . 161 Chambers Street, New York.	New York East . . . . .	1928
Silas Peirce . . . . . 59 Commercial Street, Boston, Massachusetts.	New England . . . . .	1924
J. E. Holmes . . . . . 506 Sixth Street, Brooklyn, New York.	New York East . . . . .	1928
E. S. Tipple . . . . . Madison, New Jersey.	New York . . . . .	1924

### § 3. Local Committee at Cincinnati

Name	Conference	Term Expires
Jesse R. Clark . . . . . Union Central Life Building, Cincinnati, Ohio.	West Ohio . . . . .	1928
E. E. Shipley . . . . . 603 First National Bank Building, Cincinnati, Ohio.	West Ohio . . . . .	1924
Henry S. Henschen . . . . . Chicago, Illinois.	Rock River . . . . .	1924
C. M. Van Pelt . . . . . 33 Oak Hill Avenue, Delaware, Ohio.	West Ohio . . . . .	1924
Herbert Scott . . . . . 516 North Street, Zanesville, Ohio.	Ohio . . . . .	1928

### ¶ 547. Board of Foreign Missions

OFFICE: 150 Fifth Avenue, New York

*President*, BISHOP LUTHER B. WILSON.

*Honorary Vice-President*, W. V. KELLEY.

*Vice-President*, FRANK A. HORNE.

*Corresponding Secretaries*, FRANK MASON NORTH,  
S. EARL TAYLOR.

*Treasurer*, GEORGE M. FOWLES.

*Assistant Treasurer*, GEORGE F. SUTHERLAND

*Recording Secretary*, FRANK MASON NORTH.

*Assistant Recording Secretary*, ARTHUR BRUCE MOSS.

## MANAGERS

The effective Bishops *ex officio*.

## MINISTERS

B. F. Abbott,  
C. L. Bovard,  
Herbert Clegg,  
E. A. Dent,  
D. G. Downey,  
G. P. Eckman,<sup>1</sup>  
J. R. Edwards,  
J. F. Goucher  
W. I. Haven,  
S. J. Herben,  
F. R. Hollenback,  
C. C. Jacobs,

Adolphus Linfield,  
Wallace MacMullen,  
L. H. Murlin,  
E. S. Ninde,  
T. E. Newland,  
W. H. Phelps,  
S. B. Salmon,  
C. F. Sitterly,  
Merle N. Smith,  
E. S. Tipple,  
R. B. Army,  
R. J. Wade.

## LAYMEN

H. S. Bradley,  
F. L. Brown,  
W. W. Carman,  
S. A. Daniels,  
C. M. Fuller,  
Chas. Gibson,  
E. W. Halford,  
G. B. Hodgman,  
F. A. Horne,  
F. D. Howard,  
W. T. Jennings,  
J. R. Joy,

J. W. Kinnear,  
E. M. McBrier,  
W. T. McConnell,  
C. W. Masland,  
W. E. Massey  
E. S. Mills,  
W. E. Myers,  
W. J. Stitt,  
F. B. Trotter,  
John Tunnicliffe,  
W. H. Van Benschoten,  
E. Z. Wallower,

C. E. Welch.

## DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

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V.	T. H. Campbell,	XII.	Frank Doran,
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	XV.		F. A. Hazeltine.

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OFFICE: Arch and Seventeenth Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.  
Corresponding Secretary, DAVID D. FORSYTH.

## MANAGERS

Ex officio without vote, all effective Bishops resident in the United States:

<sup>1</sup> Deceased.

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Blaine, J. C. Nate, J. A. James, J. E. Baker.

## CLASS 1928

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A. E. Smith, M. W. Dogan, A. L. Johnson, Samuel Dickie, G. H. Bridg-  
man, O. E. Kriege, C. H. Fowler, T. C. Knoles.

## CLASS 1932

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Nicholson, H. O. Perry, Charles Scott, Jr., J. H. Race, R. S. Ingraham,  
Omar Powell, A. H. King, F. E. Mossman, J. L. Neu, William Rawling.

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III.	W. A. Elliott.....	Allegheny College
IV.	W. W. Guth.....	Goucher College
V.	W. H. McMaster.....	Mount Union College
VI.	F. W. Hixson.....	University of Chattanooga

District	Name	Institution
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VIII.	S. A. Lough.....	Baker University
IX.	C. W. Flint.....	Cornell College
X.	L. H. Hough.....	Northwestern University
XI.	G. R. Grose.....	DePauw University
XII.	Samuel Plantz.....	Lawrence College
XIII.	Frederic Cramer.....	Baldwin Wallace College
XIV.	G. F. Bovard.....	University of Southern California
XV.	C. G. Doney.....	Willamette University

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*Treasurer*, W. C. HANSON.

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Bishops Stuntz, Nicholson, Leete.

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HENRY H. MEYER, *Editor Sunday School Publications*

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III.	G. F. Shepard,	X.	G. W. Dixon,
IV.	C. W. Flesher,	XI.	W. F. Kendrick,
V.	W. D. Cole,	XII.	J. S. Hoagland,
VI.	L. F. Corley,	XIII.	Eugene Weiffenbach,
VII.	J. O. Williams,	XIV.	J. G. Hill.
	XV.		A. Warner

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*Corresponding Secretary*, JOSEPH B. HINGELEY.

*Recording Secretary*, THOMAS A. STAFFORD.

*Treasurer*, ROBERT W. CAMPBELL.

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JOSEPH B. HINGELEY.

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Perry Millar,  
S. J. Greenfield.

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George Warren Brown,

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Robert W. Campbell.

## CLASS 2—EIGHT YEARS

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H. L. Davis,  
R. E. Meader.

## LAYMEN

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Benjamin F. Adams,

Charles E. Waterman,  
J. B. Morrell.

## ¶ 554. Board of the Epworth League

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*President*, BISHOP ADNA W. LEONARD.

*General Secretary*, CHARLES E. GUTHRIE

*Editor Epworth Herald*, DAN B. BRUMMITT

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III.	W. E. Brown.....	Central New York
IV.	J. W. Engle.....	West Virginia
V.	W. E. Hammaker.....	North-East Ohio
VI.	J. S. Hill.....	East Tennessee
VII.	C. S. Stanley.....	Louisiana
VIII.	H. A. Gordon.....	Kansas
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## AT LARGE

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M. C. Tift....North Minnesota

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D. L. Marsh.....Pittsburgh

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Public Morals

OFFICE: Corner 18th and Maryland Avenue, N. E., Washington, D. C.

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<sup>1</sup> Deceased

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| XV. J. A. Martin.      |                         |

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*Corresponding Secretary*, REV. N. E. DAVIS, 740 Rush Street,  
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Chattanooga—Minister, G. T. Byrd, Holston; layman, S. M. Clark, East Tennessee.

Chicago—Minister, M. N. English, Illinois; layman, George W. Dixon, Rock River.

Cincinnati—Minister, D. F. Helms, West Ohio; layman, A. S. Bennett, Kentucky.

Denver—Minister, O. W. Auman, Colorado; layman, R. B. Spencer. Colorado.

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Helena—Minister, George Mecklenberg, Montana; layman, Richard A. Lathrop, North Dakota.

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St. Paul—Minister, E. C. Dixon, West Wisconsin; layman, U. G. Johnson, South Dakota.

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## WOMAN'S HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY

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*Secretary*, EDGAR J. PERSHING,

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Thomas B. Perkins,  
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CLASS 2. TERM EXPIRES IN EIGHT YEARS (1928)

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William Kennedy,

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William H. Van Benschoten,

Joseph B. Morrell.

## ¶ 563. Corporate Names of Organizations, with Name of State under whose Laws each was Incorporated

The Chartered Fund of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Pennsylvania*.Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Ohio*.Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*New York*.The Board of Home Missions and Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Pennsylvania*.Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*New York*.The Board of Sunday Schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Illinois*.Board of Conference Claimants of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Illinois*.The Epworth League of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Illinois*.The Temperance Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Kansas*.

## ¶ 564. General Conference Commissions

§ 1. COMMISSION ON THE COURSES OF STUDY

Bishops Hughes, Mitchell and McConnell

*Ministers*: Wallace MacMullen, P. H. Swift, L. H. Bugbee.*Educators*: (Three to be nominated by the Board of Education and appointed by the Board of Bishops.)*Ex officio*, D. G. Downey, Book Editor.

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W. P. Thirkield.

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- |       |                            |                |
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| III.  | W. A. Elliott.....         | Erie           |
| IV.   | Archibald Moore.....       | West Virginia  |
| V.    | Ernest H. Cherrington..... | Ohio           |
| VI.   | J. M. Melear.....          | Holston        |
| VII.  | P. W. Kinchen.....         | Louisiana      |
| VIII. | J. W. Abel.....            | Oklahoma       |
| IX.   | A. N. Jarvis.....          | Iowa           |
| X.    | J. W. Van Cleve.....       | Illinois       |
| XI.   | Loren D. Dickinson.....    | Michigan       |
| XII.  | E. D. Kohlstedt.....       | Wisconsin      |
| XIII. | Charles E. Allinger.....   | Central German |
| XIV.  | E. P. Dennett.....         | California     |
| XV.   | C. H. White.....           | Idaho          |

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I. Garland Penn.

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## Bishop McDowell, Bishop Berry,

J. R. Edwards, John Handley, J. W. R. Sumwalt.

## §5 COMMITTEE OF NINE ON ORGANIC UNION

Bishop Wilson, R. Bagnell, D. G. Downey, F. C. Baldwin, A. Mac-  
Rossie, C. L. Hubbard, J. Watchorn, E. S. Ninde, A. E. Craig.

## §6. COMMISSION ON CENTRAL MISSION CONFERENCES

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Titus Lowe, E. L. Kidney, E. F. Kohlstedt, Judge Henry Wade  
Rogers, Mrs. W. F. McDowell, S. Earl Taylor, and F. M. North.

## §7. COMMISSION ON CORRELATION

Names to be furnished by Board of Bishops, ¶572

## §8. COMMISSION ON AREAS AND DISTRICTS

Names to be furnished by Board of Bishops, ¶576

## §9. COMMISSION ON COMITY AND COOPERATION

Bishop F. M. Bristol, W. L. McDowell, Isaac T. Roach, W. Burris,  
C. A. Titus, W. M. Short, A. S. Bennett (¶ 597)

## §10. COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN LANGUAGE PUBLICATIONS

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D. D. Forsyth,

W. S. Bovard,

J. E. Holmes,

R. W. Keeler

H. H. Meyer.

§ 11. JOINT COMMISSION ON RELIGIOUS DAY SCHOOLS  
Three each to be appointed by the Board of Education, the Board of Sunday Schools and the Board of Bishops, ¶ 578.

§ 12. COMMISSION ON THE ORDINATION OF WOMEN AND THEIR ADMISSION  
TO THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
Names to be furnished by Board of Bishops, ¶ 577.

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## CHAPTER III

### THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

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#### ¶ 565. Program for the General Conference

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*Whereas*, The action of the General Conference of 1908, as it appears on pages 383 and 449 of the Journal of that year, reenacted in 1912 and again in 1916, has proved not only practicable, but very helpful to the orderly conduct of business, especially during the earlier sessions of this Conference; therefore

*Resolved*, That the Committee having in charge the arrangements for the next General Conference be requested to provide that the memorial session be held on the afternoon of the first or second Sunday following the assembly of the General Conference, and that the Bishops be a Committee to arrange for such service, and if for any reason it shall seem desirable to them to have one memorial address, they shall so arrange.

*Resolved*, That all receptions to fraternal delegates be held at evening sessions of the General Conference and, as far as possible, within the first two weeks of the session.

*Resolved*, That there shall be one Episcopal Address, to include all matters to be brought before the Conference by the General Superintendents; and that evening sessions be set apart for the proper presentation of reports by the General Superintendents who have admin-

istered foreign mission fields, if this shall be found practicable.

*Resolved*, That the Book Committee and its Commission on Entertainment and the Secretary of the General Conference be directed to cooperate with each other in making such advance provisions for the General Conference of 1924 as will expedite its business; such provisions to be reported to, and to be subject to change by the General Conference.

*Resolved*, That memorials, resolutions and requests to be submitted to Standing Committees may be sent to the Secretary of this General Conference or his assistant at any time in the month of April, 1924, and shall be arranged by him for immediate distribution to the several Standing Committees.

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### ¶ 566. Traveling Expenses of Delegates

*Resolved*, 1. That the traveling expenses of each delegate to and from the seat of the General Conference shall be paid in the proportion that the number of days of his attendance is to the number of days of the session of the General Conference, the only exception being on account of personal sickness of the delegate, the exceptions to be determined by the Committee on Credentials.

2. When a delegate is excused and no reserve is seated in his place, he shall receive the proportional part of his traveling expenses as required by our rules, and his per diem during the time he serves.

3. When a reserve delegate takes the place of a delegate it shall be with the distinct understanding that there shall be no additional expense, except in cases where vacancies are created as a result of elections by this body.

4. After the twenty-second day of the session no reserve delegate shall be seated, unless without additional expense.—*Journal*, 1920.

## ¶ 567. Rules of Order of the General Conference

## ORGANIZATION

RULE 1. When a General Conference shall have been convened in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, after the Devotional Services, the call of the roll shall be made by the Secretary of the preceding General Conference in the following manner:

(a) The names of the Bishops who have died during the quadrennium, and the name of every delegate-elect who may have died since election.

(b) The names of the General Superintendents followed by the names of the Missionary Bishops.

(c) The roll of members by Conferences. Whenever a Conference is called, the Chairman of the delegation shall report the name of any delegate that is absent. If no absentee is announced, the secretary shall record all the delegates of that Conference as present. And, if a quorum is present, the Conference shall proceed to organization by the election of a Secretary, by ballot if there be more than one nomination, otherwise by acclamation; and by the election of such Assistant Secretaries, upon nomination of the Secretary, as it may deem necessary.

## TIME OF MEETING, RECESS, AND ADJOURNMENT

RULE 2. *After the opening session*, the General Conference shall meet at 8:30 o'clock A. M., and adjourn at 12:30 P. M.; but the General Conference, at its discretion, may alter the time of meeting and may adjourn and fix the time to which it shall adjourn. A recess of ten minutes shall be taken at 10:30 o'clock unless otherwise ordered.

## THE PRESIDENT

RULE 3. *The President shall take the chair* precisely at the hour to which the General Conference stood adjourned, and cause the session to be opened by the reading of the Scriptures, singing, and prayer. On the

appearance of a quorum he shall see that the business of the Conference proceeds regularly, according to the Rules of Order, and such other rules and regulations as may be adopted by the General Conference.

RULE 4. *The President shall decide all questions of order*, subject to an appeal to the General Conference. In case of such appeal the question shall be taken without debate, except that the President may state the grounds of his decision, and the appellant may state the grounds of his appeal.

RULE 5. *The President shall appoint all Committees*, unless otherwise especially ordered by the Conference.

RULE 6. *On Assigning the floor* to a member the President shall distinctly announce the name of the delegate and of the Annual Conference which he represents.

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS

RULE 7. *The regular order of business* shall be :

I. DEVOTIONAL SERVICES.

II. APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL.

III. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PRIVILEGES.

IV. CALL OF CONFERENCES in alphabetical order for the presentation of resolutions *for immediate passage*.

(1) When a proposition has been presented under the Call of Conferences, and before the person who introduced the proposition shall speak, the Question of Consideration may be raised by a member saying :

*"Mr. President, on that I raise the Question of Consideration."*

The Question of Consideration shall then be put without debate, and if there is a two-thirds vote against consideration, the proposition shall not be entertained; but if consideration be not denied, the person introducing the proposition may speak to it if it be seconded.

(2) After the person introducing the proposition has spoken, a motion to refer, if made, shall be decided without debate; or a motion to defer consideration and print in *The Daily Advocate*, if sustained by one hundred and

fifty members, shall prevail without debate; in which case the proposition shall be given precedence under the next Call of Conferences; at which time also it shall be subject to the question of consideration or the motion of reference the same as when originally introduced; provided, however, that a proposition which has been refused consideration shall not be printed in *The Daily Advocate* or the General Conference Journal.

#### V. CALENDAR.

The reports of the several Standing and Special Committees shall be called in the order in which they are filed with the Secretary of the General Conference, except as otherwise determined by the General Conference.

#### VI. CALL OF MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

These calls shall be made in the order herein given, and shall be severally completed before the introduction of other business, except by a formal suspension of the Rules. They shall be repeated, in the same order, until dispensed with by a formal vote.

RULE 8. *No member shall absent himself from the sessions of the General Conference without leave, unless he be unable to attend.*

#### DUTIES AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS

RULE 9. *When a member is about to speak in debate, or to deliver any matter to the General Conference, he shall rise and respectfully address the President, but shall not proceed until recognized by him. The member must address the Chair from his place, but he shall address the General Conference from the speaker's platform.*

RULE 10. *No member shall be interrupted when speaking, except by the President to call him to order when he departs from the question, or uses personalities or disrespectful language; but any member may call the attention of the President to the subject when he deems a speaker out of order, and any member may explain when he thinks himself misrepresented.*

**RULE 11.** *When a member desires to speak to a question of privilege* he shall briefly state the question; but it shall not be in order for him to proceed until the President shall have decided that it is a privileged question. Questions of privilege are limited to matters relating to the rights and welfare of the individual as a member or of the whole body; and must be of such an imperative character as to justify the interruption of the regular order.

It shall be the imperative duty of the President to require the member who desires to speak to a question of privilege to state his question of privilege. This having been done, the President shall decide whether it shall be allowed; and, if it be allowed, shall hold the member closely to the subject. See **RULE 42**.

**RULE 12.** *No person shall speak more than once* on the same question until every member who chooses to speak shall have spoken; nor shall any member speak more than twice on the same question, nor more than ten minutes at one time, without leave of the General Conference.

*Provided*, however, that a committee making a report through its chairman, or one of its members selected by the committee or by its chairman, shall be entitled to ten minutes to close the debate, either to oppose the motion to lay the report on the table, or, this permission not having been used, to close the debate on the motion to adopt. The committee shall not be deprived of its right to close the debate even after the previous question has been ordered, and, when a report consisting of two or more propositions has a seriatim consideration, the chairman or representative of the committee shall be entitled to the same rights and privileges on each proposition, thus decided separately, as he would have had if the report had been considered as a unit. A similar privilege is granted to the chairman in charge of a minority report. See **RULE 52** and **RULE 53**.

## MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

RULE 13. *Resolutions shall be written and presented in duplicate by the mover. A motion shall be reduced to writing if the President, Secretary, or a member request it. If the General Conference shall order a resolution to be referred to a committee, then the mover shall furnish to the Secretary a third copy thereof for the use of the committee.*

RULE 14. *Reading.* All written motions, reports, and communications to the General Conference shall be passed to the Secretary, to be read by him to the General Conference.

RULE 15. *When a motion is made and seconded, or a resolution introduced and seconded, or a report presented and read by the Secretary, or stated by the President, it shall be deemed in possession of the Conference.*

RULE 16. *The following motions shall be taken without debate:*

- (1) To adjourn.
- (2) To suspend the rules.
- (3) To lay on the table.
- (4) To take from the table.
- (5) To raise the question of consideration.
- (6) To call for the previous question.
- (7) To reconsider a nondebatable motion.
- (8) To refer, under Rule 7 (2).
- (9) To defer and print, under Rule 7 (2).

RULE 17. *No new motion or resolution shall be entertained until the one under consideration has been disposed of, which may be done by adoption or rejection; but one or more of the following motions may be made, and they shall have precedence in the order in which they are given, namely:*

- (1) To fix the time to which the General Conference shall adjourn (may be amended, substituted, or laid on the table).
- (2) To adjourn.

- (3) To take a recess.
- (4) To lay on the table.
- (5) To order the previous question (cannot be laid on the table).
- (6) To postpone to a given time.
- (7) To refer.
- (8) To substitute.
- (9) To amend.
- (10) To postpone indefinitely.

RULE 18. *Only one amendment to an amendment* shall be in order, but it shall be in order to move a substitute for the main question, and one amendment to the substitute, and if the substitute is accepted, it shall replace the original proposition.

RULE 19. *It shall be in order to move the previous question*—that is, that the question be taken without further debate—on any measure pending, except in cases in which moral character is involved. If the call for the previous question be sustained by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting, the main question shall be put; nevertheless, under this rule, after the previous question has been ordered, it shall be in order to divide, or to move to refer or to recommit or to lay on the table. It shall not be in order for a member to move the previous question or to move to lay on the table or to offer any other motion that prevents debate except a motion to suspend the rules at the close of a speech in which he has discussed the pending question.

RULE 20. *When a vote is about to be taken* any member shall have the right to call for the division of a question, if it be divisible into distinct propositions.

RULE 21. *The motion to adjourn* shall be taken without debate, and shall always be in order, *except*

- (1) When a member has the floor.
- (2) When a question is actually put, or a vote is being taken, or until finally decided.

(3) When a question is pending on sustaining the demand for the previous question.

(4) When the previous question has been called and sustained, and action under it is pending.

(5) When a motion to adjourn has been negatived, and no business or debate has intervened.

(6) When a motion to fix the time to which the General Conference shall adjourn is pending.

**RULE 22. *Reconsideration.*** When any motion or resolution shall have been acted upon by the General Conference, it shall be in order for any member who voted with the prevailing side to move a reconsideration; provided, that a motion to reconsider a nondebatable motion shall be decided without debate.

**RULE 23. *Changes of Discipline.*** All resolutions proposing changes of the Discipline shall state the language of the paragraph, the line to be altered, and the language to be substituted; and no such proposed change shall be considered until it has been in the possession of the General Conference for one day and shall have been printed in *The Daily Christian Advocate*; but while it is under consideration amendments which are germane shall be in order.

**RULE 24.** *When any member shall move the reference of any portion of the Journal of an Annual Conference to any committee he must at the same time furnish a copy of the portion he wishes to have referred, prepared as provided by Rule 32 in the case of memorials.*

#### VOTING

**RULE 25.** *Every member who is within the bar at the time a question is put shall vote, unless, for special reasons, excused by the General Conference. A member who is not within the bar at the time when a question shall be put by the President shall not be allowed to vote except by leave of the General Conference, when such member has been necessarily absent.*

**RULE 26.** *Voting shall be by the uplifted hand, but, on*

a division of the house, a count vote shall be taken, the members rising in their places and standing until they shall have been counted. Votes may also be taken by ballot and by AYES and NOES.

**RULE 27. *Ayes and Noes.*** It shall be in order for any member to call for the AYES and NOES on any question before the General Conference, and if the call be sustained by one hundred members present, the vote thereon shall be so taken. If the call be not sustained, members voting in the minority may have their votes recorded.

**RULE 28. *Order of voting.*** In voting when there is a substitute, and amendments have been proposed to the original resolution and an amendment to the substitute has been moved, the General Conference shall pursue the following order, namely: The main question shall first be perfected by voting on the amendments proposed thereto, and then the General Conference shall vote upon the amendment to the substitute, then upon the question of substitution, and finally upon the question of adoption.

**RULE 29. *A call for a vote by orders*** shall be made and seconded by members of the same order, and shall require the vote of one-third of the members of that order present and voting.

**RULE 30. *When voting by orders*** the separation shall be merely in regard to the taking, announcing, deciding, and recording the vote of each order on the question on which the separate vote is demanded. Any incidental question bearing upon such vote shall be decided by the General Conference acting as one body. In taking a vote by orders it shall be by a count vote, first of the order calling for the separate vote and then of the other order.

#### MEMORIALS, RESOLUTIONS, AND PAPERS FOR UNANNOUNCED REFERENCE

**RULE 31. *Memorials.*** Three copies of memorials, resolutions, and miscellaneous papers presented for reference to a committee, and not for immediate consideration, shall

be placed in the hands of the Secretary without announcement.

RULE 32. *Members presenting such memorials, petitions, and other papers for reference shall prepare the papers by writing plainly on the back of them, after folding, the following items in the order herein given, namely :*

- (1) Name of member presenting paper.
- (2) Conference to which he belongs.
- (3) Conference, member, or church from which the paper comes.
- (4) Subject to which it relates.
- (5) First name on the petition.
- (6) Number of other petitioners.
- (7) Committee to which it is to be referred.

RULE 33. Memorials, resolutions, and other papers thus presented shall be *delivered directly to the Secretary* of the General Conference, in triplicate, and shall be sent by him to the Committee on Reference (see RULE 40) and announced in the Journal of the day ; provided, that in case of memorials and documents of unusual length, which are not intended for publication, one complete original copy shall be required, and two copies of the indorsement thereon as required by this paragraph.

RULE 34. *Memorials, petitions, etc., for reference to committees may be mailed to the Secretary of the General Conference at any time within four months previous to the session of the General Conference, for early classification and reference to the several Standing Committees.*

RULE 35. *There shall be sixteen Standing Committees as follows :*

#### COMMITTEES

- I. Episcopacy.
- II. Judiciary.
- III. Itinerancy.
- IV. Boundaries.
- V. Revision.

- VI. Temporal Economy.
- VII. State of the Church.
- VIII. Book Concern.
- IX. Foreign Missions.
- X. Home Missions and Church Extension.
- XI. Education.
- XII. Education for Negroes.
- XIII. Sunday Schools.
- XIV. Epworth League.
- XV. Deaconess Work.
- XVI. Temperance, Prohibition, and Public Morals.

RULE 36. *For the Committee on Judiciary and the Committee on Revision* the delegates of each General Conference District shall nominate from their number one member, and the Bishops shall nominate four, making the total number nineteen. These Committees shall meet at such times as they may elect, or as may be ordered by the General Conference.

RULE 37. *For the Committee on Deaconess Work* the delegates of each General Conference District shall nominate from their number one layman and one minister, and the Board of Bishops shall nominate nine, making a total of thirty-nine. The committee shall meet as it may elect.

RULE 38. *The other Standing Committees* shall be divided into three groups, designated as GROUP A, meeting at 3 P. M. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; GROUP B, meeting at 3 P. M. on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday; and GROUP C, meeting only twice a week, as follows:

GROUP A.—*Monday, Wednesday, Friday.*

Episcopacy.

Itinerancy.

Boundaries.

Temporal Economy.

State of the Church.

GROUP B.—*Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday.*

Book Concern.

Foreign Missions.

Home Missions.

Education.

Education for Negroes.

GROUP C.—*Monday and Wednesday.*

Epworth League.

*Tuesday and Thursday.*

Sunday Schools.

*Friday and Saturday.*

Temperance, Prohibition and Public Morals.

RULE 39. *Assignment to Standing Committees.* As soon as practicable after the election of delegates the Secretary of each Annual Conference shall call together the ministerial and lay delegates for organization. They shall elect one of their number as chairman, and shall assign one minister and one layman to membership in each standing committee, except the Committees on Judiciary, on Revision, and on Deaconess Work; provided, that each Conference shall have at least one representative on each committee. The chairman of the delegation shall immediately forward to the Secretary of the General Conference the names of the delegates from his Conference, arranged alphabetically, indicating the order to which each belongs, and the standing committees in GROUP A, GROUP B, or GROUP C, to which each is assigned; and from these returns the Secretary of the General Conference shall construct as far as possible, the roll of standing committees in advance of the opening of the General Conference.

RULE 40. *Reference of memorials, petitions, appeals, and other documents* properly referable to committees of the General Conference.

§ 1. On the first day of the session there shall be appointed, on nomination of the Bishops, a committee of five to which shall be submitted the Secretary's record

with the stenographic report of the proceedings. The said committee shall carefully examine the records and report to the General Conference in either of the following forms:

- (1) "We have examined the Minutes and found them correct"; or,
- (2) "We have examined the Minutes and found them correct except in the following particular or particulars."

Following the adoption of the report of the committee, and whenever necessary, the correction of the Journal, the question shall be submitted:

"Shall the Journal be approved?"

Any error subsequently discovered shall be reported to the committee and upon its recommendation may be corrected by the General Conference.

§ 2. There shall be a *Committee of Reference* composed of the Secretary of the General Conference and two ministerial and two lay delegates who shall be appointed by the Secretary of the General Conference, of which committee the Secretary of the General Conference shall be Secretary.

(1) *The Committee of Reference*, as soon as appointed, shall meet and organize by electing a chairman from its number. The General Conference Secretary may also appoint an Assistant Secretary to cooperate with him in keeping the records of this committee, which records shall be made a part of the Journal of the General Conference. To this committee shall be referred all petitions, memorials, appeals, and other documents, not otherwise provided for, presented to and requiring action of the General Conference.

(2) *The Committee of Reference* shall as expeditiously as possible refer all petitions, memorials, appeals, and other documents properly referable to the committees provided by the Rules of Order and to such other committees as are or may be provided by the Rules of Order

or especially created by the Conference. Reference of all petitions, memorials, appeals, and other documents to the said several committees shall be made as indicated generally by the title of the committees, and hereafter particularly specified.

(3) *The Committee of Reference* shall number consecutively its references to the several committees and shall publish the number, title, and committee reference of all documents referred during the preceding day in *The Daily Christian Advocate*.

§ 3. The following special references shall be made :

(1) *To the Committee on Episcopacy*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to the General and Missionary Superintendency.

(2) *To the Committee on Judiciary*, all appeals coming to the General Conference under the provisions of the Discipline, rulings of the Bishops and other questions referred to it by the General Conference.

(3) *To the Committee on Itinerancy*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to the Pastorate, District Superintendency, Conference Claimants, and the Local Ministry, and also Annual Conference Journals.

(4) *To the Committee on Boundaries*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to the Boundaries of Conferences and General Conference Districts.

(5) *To the Committee on Revision*, shall be sent all committee reports for the correction of verbal errors and infelicities only, except the reports of the Committees on Judiciary and Boundaries, as they finally pass the General Conference and before their final printing in *The Daily Christian Advocate*. To the Committee on Revision the General Conference also may refer any resolution or report for more careful and exact statement.

(6) *To the Committee on Temporal Economy*, all memorials, petitions, and documents relating to the organization, business, and administration of the Quarterly, District, Annual, and General Conferences, and also

matters relating to Lay Conference, Ratio of Representation, and all matters relating to church membership, property, finance, and other temporal matters, including statistical reports.

(7) *To the Committee on State of the Church*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to social service, labor, Sabbath observance, divorce, amusements, and the social and spiritual welfare of the church not clearly belonging to other committees.

(8) *To the Committee on Book Concern*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to the Book Concern, the Book Committee, publications, and publishing interests.

(9) *To the Committee on Foreign Missions*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to the Board of Foreign Missions, Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, and all other matters relating to Foreign Missionary Work.

(10) *To the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, Woman's Home Missionary Society, City Evangelization, the Rural Church, and all other matters relating to Home Missionary work.

(11) *To the Committee on Education*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to our Board of Education, our higher institutions of learning, Courses of Study, and all other questions affecting the educational interests of the church.

(12) *To the Committee on Education for Negroes*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to the Board of Education for Negroes and all other matters affecting the educational interests of the colored people.

(13) *To the Committee on Sunday Schools*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to the Board of Sunday Schools, Methodist Brotherhood, Sun-

day School literature, and all other matters affecting our Sunday school work.

(14) *To the Committee on Epworth League*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to our Young People's work, the literature of the Epworth League, and other matters affecting the interests of the League.

(15) *To the Committee on Deaconess Work*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to the General Deaconess Board and the Deaconess work.

(16) *To the Committee on Temperance, Prohibition, and Public Morals*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to Temperance, Prohibition, Habit-forming Drugs, the Social Evil, and other questions on the attitude of the church toward public morals.

§ 4. *The Committee of Reference* shall also refer all memorials, petitions, and other documents not specifically assigned by this rule to such committees as in its discretion the same shall seem to belong, having due regard to the subject-matter thereof.

§ 5. *The Committee of Reference* shall have power to withdraw a reference, either upon request or upon its own motion, and to refer the same to another committee; the said committee shall also have power to withhold from reference and publication any document which it shall deem personal, or which is not properly referable to any existing committee, or it may recommend to the General Conference the appointment of a special committee to consider such document. The General Conference may, on motion, require any document withheld from reference to be properly referred.

RULE 41. *The General Conference shall elect* the following special committees to consist of one member from each General Conference District, to be nominated by the Bishops at the morning session of the third day:

American Bible Society.

Federation.

Also special committees on Credentials and on Fraternal Delegates, to be nominated by the Bishops at the opening session; and such other committees as the General Conference from time to time shall determine.

**RULE 42.** *On the first day of the session there shall be appointed, on nomination of the Bishops, a committee of nine on Questions of Privilege. To this committee any member of the body shall submit what he considers a question of privilege relative to the business of the General Conference. Said committee shall determine whether the matter so submitted is or is not a question of privilege. All matters approved by the committee as matters of privilege shall be reported to the presiding officer and acted upon each day immediately after the approval of the Journal. The appointment of such a committee, however, shall not be construed as abridging in any measure the right of any member to bring forward at any time, from his place on the floor, such matters of urgency as involve the rights or welfare of the individual member or of the house. (See RULE 11.)*

**RULE 43.** *A business quorum of a Standing Committee shall be thirty-five, except that for the Committees on Judiciary, on Revision, and on Deaconess Work a majority of all the members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.*

**RULE 44.** *Committees shall not originate business, but shall consider all subjects referred to them by the General Conference.*

**RULE 45.** *A Committee shall not consider a matter which the General Conference has refused to refer to it.*

**RULE 46.** *When a matter has been received by the General Conference, and referred to a committee, and a report thereon has been made, it shall not be in order for another committee to consider the same subject, or for the General Conference to entertain a report from another committee on the same subject; but should a committee ascertain that a subject which has been referred to it has*

been referred also to another committee, it shall report the fact to the Committee on Reference, which shall assign the paper to the proper committee unless it be in doubt, in which case it shall report the matter to the General Conference for its decision.

RULE 47. *Whenever in any committee* any change in the Discipline is adopted which will affect the work of any of the Boards of the Church, whose work is under consideration by one of the Standing Committees, a Committee of Conference, which shall be composed of three members from each Standing Committee involved, shall be appointed by the chairman of each committee; which Committee of Conference shall consider said proposed legislation and report back to their respective committees before any report on the proposed legislation is made to the General Conference.

RULE 48. *There shall not be reported* as coming from a committee any matter which has not been considered and acted upon by the committee duly assembled.

RULE 49. *Committee reports which propose changes* of the Discipline shall recite not only the paragraph and line to be amended, but also the paragraph as amended.

#### REPORTS

RULE 50. *Reports of Standing Committees* signed by the chairman and secretary, and minority reports signed by at least ten members, shall be considered to be in possession of the Conference when they shall have been printed in *The Daily Christian Advocate*. But in a minority report from the Committee on Judiciary one signature shall be sufficient. Such reports shall be presented to the Conference upon paper bearing at the top the number of the report, the name of the committee, the total membership of the committee, the number present at the time the report was adopted, the number voting for the report, and the number voting against the report.

RULE 51. *When the chairman of a committee is not in harmony with a report* ordered by the committee, it

shall be his duty to state the fact to the committee, and the committee shall elect one of its members to represent it in the presentation and discussion of the report in the General Conference; but, if in such a case the committee fail to select such a representative, the chairman shall designate a member to represent the action of the committee, and said representative shall have all the rights and privileges of the chairman in relation to such report.

RULE 52. *The person designated to present the minority report* shall have all the privileges in reference to the minority report that are given in Rule 12 to the chairman presenting a majority report; except that the chairman presenting the majority report shall have the right of closing the debate on the question of substituting the minority report for the majority report.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

RULE 53. *Demonstrations* of approval or disapproval during the progress of debate shall be deemed a breach of order.

RULE 54. *No persons, except members, ushers, and pages* shall stand in the open spaces in the room.

RULE 55. *The ushers* shall keep the aisles clear for their proper use, and none but delegates shall be admitted within the inclosure reserved for the delegates.

RULE 56. *In all matters not specified* herein the proceedings of the General Conference shall be governed by Common Parliamentary Law.

RULE 57. *These rules may be suspended* at any time by a vote of two thirds of the members present and voting.

### ¶ 568. General Conference Districts

Missions [in brackets] are included in Districts as constituted. The figures following the names of Conferences and Districts indicate the number of delegates to which they were entitled respectively at the close of the General Conference of 1920.

I. East Maine, 4; Eastern Swedish, 2; Maine, 4; New

Hampshire, 4; New England, 12; New England Southern, 6; Troy, 12; Vermont, 4. Total, 48.

II. Denmark, 2; Finland, 2; Italy, 2; New Jersey, 10; New York, 12; New York East, 14; Newark, 12; Norway, 2; Sweden, 6. Total, 62. [France Mission Conference, Russia Mission, Baltic Mission, Jugo-Slavic Mission Conference, Spain Mission.]

III. Central New York, 10; Erie, 10; Genesee, 12; Northern New York, 8; Wyoming, 10. Total, 50.

IV. Baltimore, 12; Central Pennsylvania, 12; Philadelphia, 14; Pittsburgh, 12; West Virginia, 12; Wilmington, 8. Total, 70. [Porto Rico Mission Conference.]

V. Kentucky, 4; North-East Ohio, 22; Ohio, 12; West Ohio, 20. Total, 58.

VI. Alabama, 2; Blue Ridge-Atlantic, 2; Central Tennessee, 2; Delaware, 8; East Tennessee, 2; Georgia, 2; Gulf, 2; Holston, 6; Liberia, 2; North Carolina, 4; Saint Johns River, 2; South Carolina, 8; Washington, 8. Total, 50. [North Africa Mission Conference, Congo Mission Conference, Rhodesia Mission Conference, Southeast Africa Mission Conference, Angola Mission Conference.]

VII. Atlanta, 4; Central Alabama, 4; Central Missouri, 2; Florida, 4; Lexington, 6; Lincoln, 2; Little Rock, 4; Louisiana, 8; Mississippi, 6; Savannah, 2; Tennessee, 4; Texas, 6; Upper Mississippi, 6; West Texas, 4. Total, 62. [South Florida Mission.]

VIII. Kansas, 16; Missouri, 6; Northwest Kansas, 6; Oklahoma, 10; Saint Louis, 10; Southwest Kansas, 10; Western Swedish, 2. Total, 60. [Southern Swedish Mission Conference.]

IX. Des Moines, 12; Iowa, 6; Nebraska, 18; Northwest Iowa, 10; Northwest Nebraska, 2; Upper Iowa, 10. Total, 58.

X. Central Illinois, 10; Central Swedish, 2; Illinois, 16; Norwegian and Danish, 2; Rock River, 16; Southern Illinois, 10. Total, 56.

XI. Detroit, 16; Indiana, 14; Michigan, 14; North Indiana, 14; Northwest Indiana, 10. Total, 68.

XII. Dakota, 8; Minnesota, 8; North Dakota, 6; Northern Minnesota, 8; Northern Swedish, 2; West Wisconsin, 8; Wisconsin, 8. Total, 48.

XIII. California German, 2; Central German, 4; Chicago German, 4; East German, 2; North Germany, 4; Northern German, 2; Northwest German, 2; Pacific German, 2; Saint Louis German, 4; South Germany, 4; Southern German, 2; Switzerland, 2; West German, 4. Total, 38. [Austria Mission Conference, Bulgaria Mission Conference, Hungary Mission.]

XIV. California, 12; Central China, 2; Chile, 2; Colorado, 10; Eastern South America, 2; Foochow, 4; Hinghua, 2; Kiangsi, 2; Korea, 4; Mexico, 2; New Mexico, 2; North China, 4; Southern California, 14; West China, 2; Wyoming State, 2; Yenping, 2. Total, 68. [Japan Mission Council, Arizona, Hawaii, Pacific Chinese, Pacific Japanese, and Utah Missions; Pacific Swedish, Bolivia, North Andes Mission Conferences, and Panama Mission.]

XV. Bengal, 2; Bombay, 2; Central Provinces, 2; Columbia River, 8; Idaho, 4; Malaysia, 2; Montana, 2; North India, 6; North Montana, 2; Northwest India, 4; Oregon, 8; Philippine Islands, 2; Puget Sound, 8; South India, 2; Western Norwegian-Danish, 2. Total, 56. [Burma and Netherlands Indies Mission Conferences, English-speaking Mission in India, and Alaska Mission.]

## CHAPTER IV

### GENERAL CONFERENCE REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS

#### ¶ 569. Examination of Annual Conference Journals

The examination of Annual Conference Journals by the General Conference shall be upon the following points:

§ 1. The Journal shall be a copy of the record of the regular proceedings of the Conference, arranged according to the Standard Table of Contents as follows:

- I. Conference Chronological Roll.
- II. Conference Rules of Order.
- III. Officers of the Conference.
- IV. Conference Boards.
- V. Officers of Conference Societies.
- VI. Conference Committees.
  - (a) Standing Committees.
  - (b) Special Committees.
  - (c) Assignments for Next Session.
- VII. Disciplinary Questions.
- VIII. Appointments.
- IX. Daily Proceedings.
- X. Reports.
  - (a) District Superintendents.
  - (b) Standing Committees and boards.
  - (c) Special Committees.
  - (d) Treasurers.
  - (e) Miscellaneous.
- XI. Plan of Conference Examinations.

XII. Memoirs.

XIII. Roll of the Dead.

(a) Members of the Conference.

(b) Widows of Deceased Members.

XIV. Conference Sessions.

XV. Miscellaneous.

XVI. Historical.

XVII. Statistical Tables.

§ 2. This Table of Contents shall be printed in the Annual Conference Journal immediately following the title page.

§ 3. The Journal shall have a title page and shall be signed by the President and Secretary of each Session.

§ 4. The Journal must be either in manuscript or printed and substantially bound; if the latter, in quadrennial volumes, and so paged consecutively.

§ 5. If printed and bound, there should be the Secretary's Certificate that the volume is a complete and correct record of the proceedings, and that it was adopted by the Conference as its Official Record.

§ 6. There shall be proper headings of pages, marginal or subheads, and clearness and accuracy of statement of the business transacted.

§ 7. Chirography, orthography, and the neat, business-like appearance of the page should be noted; also erasures, interlineations, and pastings.

§ 8. Separate items of business shall be placed in separate paragraphs.

§ 9. The Journal shall state where the sessions were held, the names of makers of motions, and the findings of committees of trials. The Disciplinary Questions shall be properly noted, together with their answers; also the action on each motion, and the decisions of the Bishop on questions of law.

§ 10. Any action adverse to the polity, the unity, or the purity of the Church should be carefully noted.

§ 11. The Annual Conference Secretaries shall prepare their Conference Records in view of examination at the General Conference.

§ 12. The Committee on Itinerancy, after examination of the Journals, shall return them to the respective delegations.—*Journal, 1916.*

### ¶ 570. Report on Conference Journals

Your Committee to which was assigned the duty of examining the Journals of the Annual and Mission Conferences, and Missions, reports as follows:

§ 1. The Conferences whose records are found to be correct, complying with all the requirements of the Discipline, are: Alabama, Baltimore, Blue Ridge-Atlantic, Bombay, California, California German, Central German, Central Illinois, Central New York, Central Pennsylvania, Chicago German, Colorado, Columbia River, Dakota, East German, Erie, Eastern South America, Genesee, Hinghwa, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Korea, Lexington, Malaysia, Mexico, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Newark, New England, New England Southern, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North-East Ohio, Norway, Norwegian and Danish, Northwest Iowa, Northern Minnesota, North China, Northern New York, Northern German, Northwest German, North Indiana, Northwest Indiana, Oklahoma, Pacific German, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Puget Sound, Saint Louis, Saint Louis German, Southern California, Southern German, Southern Illinois, Southwest Kansas, Sweden, Switzerland, Upper Iowa, Upper Mississippi, Vermont, West German, West Ohio, West Wisconsin, Wilmington, Wisconsin, Western Swedish, Wyoming, Yenping.

§ 2. The following Conference Journals were found to be defective in the requirements of the Discipline (¶ 556,

ed. 1916) on the points specified by numbers: Atlanta, 1, 3, 4, 8; Arkansas, 1, 2, 3; Bengal, 3; Central Alabama, 1, 3; Central China, 1, 3; Central Swedish, 3, 4; Central Missouri, 1, 3; Chile, 1, 4; Denmark, 1, 4; Des Moines, 6; Detroit, 1, 4; East Tennessee, 1, 3; Finland, 1, 3; Georgia, 3, 4; Iowa, 4; Italy, 1, 3; Liberia, 3; Lincoln, 3; Little Rock, 3; Louisiana, 1, 2, 6, 7; Mississippi, 1, 3, 4; Missouri, 1, 2; New York East, 1, 3; New Mexico, 1, 3, 4; Northwest Nebraska, 3; North Carolina, 1, 3; North Dakota, 3, 4; North India, 3, 4; Northern Swedish, 1, 3; Northwest India, 1, 2, 4; Northwest Kansas, 1, 4; Oregon, 1, 3; Ohio, 1, 3, 4; Philippine Islands, 1, 3, 4; Rock River, 1, 3, 4; Saint Johns River, 1, 4; South Carolina, 1, 3, 5, 9; Texas, 3, 4; Troy, 3, 4; Western Norwegian-Danish, 1, 3; West China, 1, 3, 4; West Texas, 1, 3, 6; West Virginia, 1, 3; Wyoming State, 3, 6.

§ 3. The Journals of the following Conferences were not presented: Central Provinces, Central Tennessee, Delaware, East Maine, Eastern Swedish, Florida, Foochow, Gulf, Holston, New York, North China, North Germany, North India, North Montana, Savannah, South Germany, South India, Tennessee, Washington, Wyoming.

§ 4. The Journals of the following Mission Conferences and Missions are found correct: Burma, Congo, Kiangsi, Netherlands Indies, Pacific-Japanese.

§ 5. The Journals of the following Mission Conferences and Missions are defective: Arizona, 1, 3; Hawaii, 1, 4; North Africa, 1, 6; Pacific Swedish, 1, 3; Southern Swedish, 1, 4; Utah, 1, 3.

§ 6. The Journals of the following Mission Conferences and Missions did not appear: Alaska, Austria-Hungary, Boliyia, Bulgaria, France, Italian, Inhambane, Nevada, North Andes, Pacific Chinese, Panama, Porto Rico, Rhodesia, Russia, South Florida, West Central Africa.

§ 7. The Journals of the Central Conference in Southern Asia for 1912, 1916, 1920, were examined and found in approved form.

## ¶ 571 GEN. CONF. REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS

## ¶ 571. Report of the General Conference Treasurer

OSCAR P. MILLER, TREASURER, ROCK RAPIDS, IOWA

In account with

GENERAL CONFERENCE EXPENSE FUND

1920 QUADRENNIUM

## RECEIPTS

To amount transferred from 1916 account.....	\$67,085 31
To unpaid claims 1916 quadrennium.....	1,100 00
To collections from Conferences.....	187,952 78
To interest collected from certificates of deposit and daily balances.....	15,878 53
To amount received from Methodist Book Concern account of Daily Christian Advocate.....	7,000 00
To refunds.....	37 60
	<hr/>
	\$279,054 22

## DISBURSEMENTS

By paid expenses of Commission on Conference Course of study.....	\$1,109 05
By paid expenses of Commission on Correlation.....	431 50
By paid expenses of Commission on Entertainment.....	3,411 01
By paid expenses of Commission on Methodist Work in Europe.....	879 75
By paid expenses of Commission on Organic Union.....	108 39
By paid expenses of Commission on Unification.....	15,728 08
By paid expenses Joint Commission California and Southern California Conferences.....	25 50
By paid expenses World Conference of Faith and Order.....	19 89
By paid expenses of Ecumenical Commission...	500 00
	<hr/>
	\$22,213 22
By paid expenses of Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America.....	16,000 00
By paid expenses Judicial Conference.....	725 30
By paid expenses Steamship and Railroad Transportation Bureau.....	979 92
By paid expenses Triers of Appeals.....	172 66
By paid expenses Fraternal Delegates.....	322 86
By paid expenses Board of Education.....	146 13
By paid Express on General Conference Journals.....	1 24
By paid Expenses of Treasurer's Office—salaries \$11,500 00	
By paid postage, stationery, etc.....	438 54
By paid premium on Treasurer's Bond.....	625 00
	<hr/>
	12,563 54
By paid expenses of General Conference Secretary.....	967 83
By paid Press and Publicity Committees.....	983 29
By expenses incident to Consecration of Bishops.....	136 50
By paid expenses of Daily Christian Advocate.....	17,018 55
By credit account of Foreign Delegates.....	958 98

# GEN. CONF. REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS ¶ 572

By paid miscellaneous expenses at General Conference (Exhibit).....	\$1,651 07
By paid expenses of General Conference delegates	
760 American—Railway fares.....	\$23,969 69
Sleeping car.....	8,000 49
Meals en route.....	4,853 50
Board and room at Des Moines.....	61,463 50
	<u>\$98,287 18</u>
68 Foreign delegates to date..	55,894 07
5 Missionary Bishops.....	1,444 19
	<u>155,625 44</u>
By refund—Buffalo District Genesee Conference account of error.....	5 00
By loss of Liberty Bond sold.....	1 50
By balance on hand July 14, 1920.....	48,581 19
	<u>\$279,054 22</u>

Respectfully submitted,  
OSCAR MILLER, TREASURER.

Note—Cash Balance July 14, 1920.....	\$48,581 19
Unpaid adjusted claims of Foreign Delegates.....	\$11,365 69
Estimated unpaid claims.....	14,000 00
	<u>25,365 69</u>
True balance.....	23,215 50

## EXHIBIT

### *Miscellaneous Expenses at General Conference*

Express.....	\$4 34
Rental of typewriters.....	15 00
Typewriter stolen at Des Moines.....	37 50
Badges.....	502 50
Ballots.....	94 95
Office supplies and stationery.....	186 83
Lunches for tellers.....	21 97
Expense of stenographic and clerical help.....	322 31
Hymn books.....	305 24
Services of Auditor.....	100 00
Telegrams.....	29 88
Expense of Educational Committee.....	6 60
Expense of Committee on Overhead.....	23 95
	<u>\$1,651 07</u>

## ¶ 572. Commission on Correlation

Your Commission on Correlation, consisting of one Bishop, three to be nominated by the Board of Sunday Schools, three by the Board of Control of the Epworth League, one by the Board of Foreign Missions, one by the Board of Home Missions, one by the Woman's

Foreign Missionary Society, and one by the Woman's Home Missionary Society, appointed at the last session of the General Conference and authorized to make, during the quadrennium, a careful study, first, of the religious educational needs of children, young people, and adults; second, of the agencies of the Church existing and meeting these needs; and further to report to the next General Conference means and methods whereby thorough coordination and correlation of organizations within the local Church may be secured in the interest of efficiency—the purpose being to promote thorough connectional interests and relation without disturbing the autonomy of existing organizations—reports as follows:

First—Repeated efforts were made during the quadrennium to bring together the representatives of the organizations named but without success—owing to the illness of some of the most useful members of the committee and the magnitude and urgency of the Centenary program followed later by similar demands in promoting the Interchurch program—until May, 1919, when, at Cleveland, Ohio, the representatives met and organized. Committees were selected on the agencies at work on the field of religious education and on educational program.

Second—The meeting of the commission in Des Moines, Iowa, on April 30, 1920, found the committees not fully prepared to make final reports upon their work. It was, therefore, decided by unanimous consent to report progress to the General Conference and request that the Commission be continued, or a similar one be appointed, and permitted to complete the work already begun.

Third—It was further recommended that we report to the General Conference that progress is already under way among many of the societies in our local Churches and that this Commission recommend the importance of developing among the existing agencies of the Church the spirit of good will and cooperation as one of the most useful means of promoting the ends desired.

¶ 573. **Contiguous and Continuous Episcopal Supervision**

§ 1. We recommend that in the intervals of the Annual Conference sessions each resident Bishop shall be held responsible for the administration of the spiritual and temporal interests of the Church in those Conferences adjacent to his residence, the decision as to which Conferences are adjacent to a particular residence being left to the Board of Bishops. To make this provision effective, we recommend that one month after the adjournment of an Annual Conference the presidency of the Conference shall pass to the Bishop resident in the group of which it forms a part, and shall remain so until one month before the next ensuing Annual Conference.

§ 2. In order to secure detailed and comprehensive knowledge of the activities, achievements, and needs of the entire Connection, each Bishop is requested to make quadrennially a written report of his administration of the group over which he exercises residential supervision, these reports to be presented to the General Conference and printed in the General Conference Handbook and Journal.

§ 3. [For the purpose of securing more economical and efficient presidential administration the Bishops are requested to arrange the Conferences in America in three Divisions and to assign each Bishop for presidential administration to the Annual Conferences of the Division within which he has his official residence.—*Journal*, 1912.]

§ 4. In case of the death, resignation, or disability of a Bishop in the interval between the General Conferences, the Board of Bishops are requested to rearrange the areas temporarily, having regard so far as possible to the principle of contiguity recommended in § 1.—*Journal*, 1916.

¶ 574. **Area System of Episcopal Supervision**

Your Committee, having carefully considered the re-

ports of the several Bishops, as printed in the Handbook of the General Conference (pp. 417-505), together with memorials regarding the area system of episcopal supervision, respectfully reports as follows:

The area has abundantly justified itself as a most effective unit and method of episcopal administration. It relates the Bishops to definite fields and thus assures a close and intensive supervision of the spiritual and temporal interests of the Church. It affords an opportunity for genuine leadership in areal enterprises. It defines responsibility and secures results that were impossible when continuity of administration was wanting.

It is the judgment of your Committee that the success of the Centenary movement that thrilled and inspired the whole Protestant world would have been impossible without the close and intensive organization of the Church through the area system under episcopal leadership. The Centenary has demonstrated beyond a doubt that the area system makes possible the quick and effective mobilization of the resources of the Church for all great undertakings.

The quadrennial report of the Bishops indicates that they are earnestly seeking to give the Church that intensive leadership that the Church has so long needed and desired. It is not invidious to say that in the judgment of your Committee close and definite cultivation of the area has secured the largest results for the Church and the Kingdom.

In order that the Bishops may give the most effective service on the fields committed to their care, they should be free from all unnecessary demands upon their time and strength outside their areas. There is no area in the Church that is not worthy of and entitled to the best that a Bishop can give to it. Therefore, we urge that in so far as possible service outside their areas, except as required by their connectional duty, should be kept at a minimum. And we particularly feel that the leadership

of special denominational or interdenominational movements requiring frequent absences from the area and involving the expenditure of much time and energy by General Superintendents is open to serious question.

It is the further judgment of your Committee that the best interests of the area will be served by continuity of administration. We therefore recommend that the Bishops be permitted to administer their respective areas except as emergencies and the demand for occasional review by other Bishops require otherwise. It is also the conviction of your Committee that when it becomes necessary or desirable to assign Bishops to Annual Conferences outside of their areas due regard should be had to proximity of territory and to a wise economy of time and travel in such assignments. Only in grave emergency should Bishops be assigned to Conferences widely separated from their residential areas.

While we do not insist upon a rigid observance of the three-fold division of territory suggested in the original area plan, we would advise a sympathetic regard for the principle contained in it.

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### ¶ 575. Episcopal Areas

Your Committee has considered the grouping of Conferences around episcopal residences, as arranged by the Bishops, and recommends their adoption, as follows:

#### UNITED STATES

*Atlanta:* BISHOP RICHARDSON—Saint Johns River Conference, Florida Conference, South Florida Mission, Atlanta Conference, Georgia Conference, Savannah Conference, South Carolina Conference, Alabama Conference.

*Boston:* BISHOP HUGHES—East Maine Conference, Maine Conference, Vermont Conference, New Hampshire Conference, New England Conference, New England Southern Conference.

*Buffalo:* BISHOP BURT—Genesee Conference, Central New York Conference, Troy Conference, Northern New York Conference.

*Chattanooga:* BISHOP BRISTOL—Holston Conference, Central Tennessee Conference; Tennessee Conference, East Tennessee Conference, Blue Ridge-Atlantic Conference, North Carolina Conference.

*Chicago:* BISHOP NICHOLSON—Central Swedish Conference, Chicago German Conference, Central Illinois Conference, Illinois Conference, Rock River Conference.

*Cincinnati:* BISHOP ANDERSON—West Ohio Conference, Ohio Conference, North-East Ohio Conference, Kentucky Conference.

*Denver:* BISHOP MEAD—Colorado Conference, Wyoming State Conference, Utah Mission, New Mexico Conference, Lincoln Conference, Western Swedish Conference, West German Conference.

*Detroit:* BISHOP HENDERSON—Detroit Conference, Michigan Conference, Central German Conference, Norwegian and Danish Conference.

*Helena:* BISHOP BURNS—Montana Conference, North Montana Conference, Idaho Conference, North Dakota Conference.

*Indianapolis:* BISHOP LEETE—Indiana Conference, North Indiana Conference, Northwest Indiana Conference, Lexington Conference.

*New Orleans:* BISHOP JONES—Louisiana Conference, Mississippi Conference, Upper Mississippi Conference, Central Alabama Conference, Texas Conference, West Texas Conference.

*New York City:* BISHOP WILSON—New York Conference, New York East Conference, Newark Conference, East German Conference, Eastern Swedish Conference.

*Omaha:* BISHOP STUNTZ—Iowa Conference, Des Moines Conference, Upper Iowa Conference, Northwest Iowa Conference, Nebraska Conference, Northwest Nebraska Conference, Northwest German Conference.

*Philadelphia:* BISHOP BERRY—Philadelphia Conference, New Jersey Conference, Delaware Conference, Wyoming Conference.

*Pittsburgh:* BISHOP McCONNELL—Erie Conference, Pittsburgh Conference, West Virginia Conference, Porto Rico Mission Conference.

*Portland:* BISHOP SHEPARD—Oregon Conference, Puget Sound Conference, Columbia River Conference, Pacific German Conference, Pacific Swedish Mission Conference, Western Norwegian-Danish Conference, Alaska Mission.

*Saint Louis:* BISHOP QUAYLE—Saint Louis Conference, Missouri Conference, Saint Louis German Conference, Southern Illinois Conference, Little Rock Conference, Central Missouri Conference.

*Saint Paul:* BISHOP MITCHELL—Minnesota Conference, Northern Minnesota Conference, Northern German Conference, Northern Swedish Conference, Wisconsin Conference, West Wisconsin Conference, Dakota Conference.

*San Francisco:* BISHOP LEONARD—California Conference, Southern California Conference, Arizona Mission, Nevada Mission, Pacific Chinese Mission, Pacific Japanese Mission, California German Conference, Hawaii Mission.

*Washington:* BISHOP McDOWELL—Baltimore Conference, Central Pennsylvania Conference, Washington Conference, Wilmington Conference.

*Wichita:* BISHOP WALDORF—Kansas Conference, Southwest Kansas Conference, Northwest Kansas Conference, Gulf Conference, Oklahoma Conference, Southern German Conference, Southern Swedish Mission Conference.

#### AFRICA

*Capetown:* BISHOP JOHNSON—Southeast Africa Mission Conference, Rhodesia Mission Conference, Congo Mission Conference, Angola Mission Conference.

*Monrovia:* BISHOP CLAIR—Liberia Conference.

EASTERN ASIA

*Peking*: BISHOP LEWIS—North China Conference, West China Conference.

*Shanghai*: BISHOP BIRNEY—Central China Conference, Kiangsi Conference.

*Foochow*: BISHOP KEENEY—Foochow Conference, Hinghua Conference, Yenping Conference.

*Seoul (Japan-Korea)*: BISHOP WELCH—Korea Conference, Japan Mission Council.

SOUTHERN ASIA

*Bangalore*: BISHOP SMITH—South India Conference, English-speaking Mission.

*Bombay*: BISHOP ROBINSON—Bombay Conference, Central Provinces Conference.

*Calcutta*: BISHOP FISHER—Bengal Conference, Burma Conference.

*Lucknow*: BISHOP WARNE—North India Conference, Northwest India Conference.

SOUTHEASTERN ASIA

*Manila*: BISHOP LOCKE—Philippine Islands Conference.

*Singapore*: BISHOP BICKLEY—Malaysia Conference, Netherlands Indies Mission Conference.

EUROPE

*Copenhagen*: BISHOP BAST—Denmark Conference, Norway Conference, Sweden Conference, Finland Conference.

*Paris*: BISHOP BLAKE—France Mission Conference, Italy Conference, North Africa Mission Conference, Jugoslavia Mission, Bulgaria Mission Conference, Spain Mission.

*Zurich*: BISHOP NUELSEN—Switzerland Conference, South Germany Conference, North Germany Conference, Austria Mission, Hungary Mission, Russia Mission.

LATIN-AMERICA

*Buenos Aires, Argentine:* BISHOP OLDHAM—Eastern South America Conference, Chile Conference, Bolivia Mission Conference.

*Mexico City, Mexico:* BISHOP THIRKIELD—Mexico Conference, Panama Mission, including Costa Rica; North Andes Mission Conference, Ecuador Mission.

¶ 576. Commission on Areas and Districts

Your committee recommends:

1. That the Bishops appoint a Commission to study our ecclesiastical geography and the changes that would be involved in the organization of the various Boards of the Church and of the General Conference Committees on the principle of the area system rather than of the General Conference District, said Commission to make its report on the second day of the General Conference of 1924.

2. Your Committee further recommends that the aforesaid Commission shall consist of one Bishop, who shall be chairman of the Commission, three ministers and three laymen, making seven members in all. Adopted. See Journal, 1920.

¶ 577. Licensing and Ordaining Women

§ 1. The law of the Church does not authorize the ordination of women to the Ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and a Bishop is not at liberty to submit to the vote of the Conference the question of electing women to Orders.—*Journal*, 1880, p. 353.

§ 2. Resolved, that the provisions of ¶¶ 219-226 of the Discipline, being Part IV, Chapter I, bearing the title, "Local Preachers," be so construed as to include women, except in so far as these provisions apply to candidates for the traveling Ministry and for Deacon's and Elder's Orders; and that wherever necessary such verbal altera-

tions be effected in these paragraphs as shall establish this definition.

§ 3. *Resolved*, that the expediency of granting to women ordination and admission to the Annual Conference be referred to a commission of seven, including one Bishop, three ministers and three laymen, to be appointed by the Bishops at this General Conference, with instructions to report their conclusions to the General Conference of 1924. Adopted. See Journal, 1920.

### ¶ 578. Religious Day Schools

We recommend that a Joint Commission of nine for the quadrennium be appointed as follows: three by the Board of Education, three by the Board of Sunday Schools and three by the Board of Bishops, whose duty it shall be to report at the next General Conference the possibility of closer articulation of the work of these two Boards—special attention being given to the Religious Day Schools in operation—said report to deal with the following items:

1. Nature and scope of such schools.
2. Funds needed for the continuance and expansion of such schools.
3. The location of responsibility for further promotion of such schools.

The expense of the Commission to be shared equally by the Board of Education and the Board of Sunday Schools.

### ¶ 579. Life Service Volunteers

In view of the highly complex nature of the problem, your Committee recommends:

(1) That the General Conference authorize one unified system for the recruiting, guidance, and selection of candidates for Christian service in the Church; and all agencies shall become part of this system.

(2) That the General Conference authorize and direct

a Commission to work out the details of this plan for such recruiting, guidance, and selection of candidates.

(3) That this Commission be empowered also to devise adequate ways and means for aiding selected life service volunteers; said financial consideration to be referred for rightful adjustment to the Council of Boards of Benevolence.

(4) That the Commission be composed of two representatives from:

1. The Board of Education.
2. The Board of Epworth League.
3. The Board of Sunday Schools.
4. The Board of Home Missions and Church Extension.
5. The Board of Foreign Missions.
6. The Woman's Home Missionary Society.
7. The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.
8. The Board of Education for Negroes.
9. The General Deaconess Board,

and from such other organizations of the Church as may have recruiting agencies.

The Executive Secretary of the Life Service Department of the Centenary Conservation Committee shall also be a member of the Commission.

The Secretary of the Board of Education shall be a member at large and shall serve as Chairman of the Commission.

(5) The Commission shall be called together to begin its work not later than June 25, 1920; and it is the sense of your Committee that the projected organization should be at work in the field not later than October 1, 1920.

(6) For the coming quadrennium it is recommended that this entire movement, for purposes of administration, be related to the Board of Education, which shall expand its functions as may be necessary, by this order; and the Board of Education shall take all necessary steps to conserve what has already been done in this work.

**¶ 580. Overhead Expense of Church Boards and the Centenary**

Your Committee on Overhead Expense calls the attention of the Conference to the fact that it was impossible to get, in the limited time given, a complete statement of expense of the areal offices. An examination of the statements submitted by the Central Office, with all other information gathered from various sources, leads your Committee to the following conclusions :

1st. We have found no evidence of any financial irregularity or infidelity in his trust on the part of any officer in the Centenary Movement. So far as the integrity of the officers of the boards engaged in the Centenary is concerned, there is no question.

2d. We have found no evidence that double salaries have been received by men working in the Centenary who retained their respective official positions; that extravagant or unreasonable allowances for expenses were paid to these men who were doing double work, or that a commission was paid to any Centenary worker in whatever capacity employed.

3d. That there were misjudgments in the selection of some of the men; that there were mistakes of management; that there were some methods used open to question; that there was some extravagance on the part of certain workers, in needless use of telegrams and long distance telephone, instead of mail service, in unnecessary travel, in stenographic help, and in other particulars, is frankly admitted by those administering the Centenary.

4th. Your committee further concludes that in view of the magnitude of the task to be accomplished, and the haste with which it was pushed to completion; in view of the fact also that a new enterprise was undertaken for which there were no precedents, and for which there were few men specially trained, the total cost of the Centenary was not excessive, and the margin of waste relatively small.

Your Committee ventures to make the following observations concerning the administrative and financial policy of the various Boards of the Church:

1st. The unparalleled response of the Church in laying vast sums of money upon its altar puts upon all who administer a tremendous responsibility for the wise and faithful expenditure of these funds. The acid test of the success of the Centenary and of all our benevolent work is not in the amount we raise, but in the careful and constructive use of money in building the kingdom of God in the earth.

2d. Your Committee believes that definite limitations should be placed upon the powers of appropriation and expenditure by small groups of men or committees in the several Boards of the Church.

3d. With the large freedom of initiative given to Annual Conferences and to the benevolent Boards of the Church, in the initiation of new policies involving obligations on the part of pastors and churches, due consideration should always be given to all the accredited administrative agencies of the Church concerned.

4th. In the judgment of your Committee, the policy of taking executive officers of the Church out of their regular work and using their services in positions not contemplated by the Church is open to serious question, except in emergency situations.

5th. Your Committee utters a strong caution against the employment of men not in sympathy with Christian ideals, and the use of methods and agencies liable to impair those high ideals and standards which for so long a time have been associated with Methodist usage and practice.

6th. Your Committee would recommend that in each area the organization of the work be effected as economically as possible; and that if practicable the same be under the close supervision of the resident Bishop.

7th. In view of the increasing need of men for the

work of the Christian ministry, we strongly deprecate the tendency to lure many of the promising young men of the Church into secretarial or semi-administrative positions; and we call upon our Bishops to resist this tendency, and upon the executives of the Boards of the Church to employ, wherever possible, laymen instead of ministers, in order that men who are called of God may give themselves to the work of the ministry.

These facts and observations which we report are based upon such study and inquiry as we could make in the short time at this long distance from the offices of the Boards. The officers of the various Boards desire us to assure the General Conference that full, detailed, and complete records are open to the Church or to any committee which it may appoint, and that complete itemized statements will be submitted as soon as they can be prepared.

In conclusion, our inquiries into the overhead expense of the Church reassure our confidence in the business integrity and wise administration of the officers of the Benevolent Boards of the Church and of the Centenary leaders, and we ask the General Conference, through this report, to voice to the Church at large this assurance of our confidence and profound gratitude for the devotion and self-sacrifice with which they have wrought during the past quadrennium.

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### ¶ 581. American Bible Society

The Committee on American Bible Society presents the following report:

1. *Achievements:* The efficiency of this society in distributing the Sacred Scriptures during an unusual quadrennium has been of the highest order. The statement from their report in our handbook, that "More than twenty millions of copies of the Sacred Scriptures in ninety to one hundred languages have been distributed in the trenches, the billets, the prison camps, the hospitals,

the cantonments, etc., of the warring nations," indicates the superb manner in which a great opportunity to meet a vital need has been turned into a great achievement. Of this twenty millions of copies the American Bible Society provided over six and one-third millions.

The largest single gift ever made by this Society and probably by any Bible Society, was granted in 1917, when one million copies of khaki-bound Testaments were supplied to the Young Men's Christian Association for distribution. This gigantic undertaking was carried out under all the difficulties attending war conditions. Nothing more vital was done for the soldier than providing for him the Word of God to be read in hours of peculiar loneliness and of spiritual hunger. It created for the young men in the army and for the homes from which they came an increased admiration and reverence for the Scriptures. We commend the mighty effort of the Society in meeting the greatly increased demands for printed copies of the Scriptures during the war period. We also commend the persistence in meeting the demand for the Bible in ten of the foreign languages chiefly for use in the United States, when the production of these editions could only be secured by photographic plates of translations previously made in England, the supply from England having been cut off by the war. The total issue of 24,225,416 volumes is an advance of nearly 5,000,000 over the previous quadrennium. The conditions which advanced the cost of everything and increased the difficulties of production in every way have called for large faith on the part of the Society and increased gifts by those who sense the importance of this work. Particular success has been achieved recently in distributing the Bible among the Negro population of this country under the general leadership of J. P. Wragg, D.D., and his colporteurs.

2. *Translations:* The quadrennium has seen the translation of the Bible into various languages and dialects in

Latin-America, Siam, and the Philippines. Far the most important achievement, however, is the completion of the Mandarin Bible and also the Wenlie Bible of China which has been under process of translation for thirty years and now is ready for over three hundred millions of people in their own language.

3. *Financial*: The gifts from the Methodist Episcopal Church have advanced from \$46,720 in 1916 to \$106,501 in 1919. The Centenary has made possible a still further advance for the current year, reaching \$150,000. The opportunities for distributing the Scriptures and the needs of a disturbed world for the spiritual values contained only in those Scriptures were never greater. Particular opportunity presents itself in connection with the tercentenary of the landing of the Pilgrims. It will be remembered that a copy of the Christian Scriptures was in the cabin of the Mayflower, and that the principles of those Scriptures became the foundation of our free national government. Once more there is need that the teachings of the Bible shall give principles to the peoples of these United States for the new problems of our national life.

We, therefore, recommend that this cause be presented to all our churches annually, as has been the custom since 1836, as one of the official benevolences. We would suggest that the amount to be asked for be left to the discretion of the Committee on Finance or such other organization as the General Conference may order. It is our conviction that not less than \$150,000 will be required for the maintenance of the work. Larger appropriation of the work should be made if available.

We further recommend that universal Bible Sunday on November 28th be observed as Mayflower Sunday in recognition of the tercentenary celebration.

We most heartily commend the efficient administration of Rev. William I. Haven, D.D., and his associates in meeting the emergencies created by the world war and for their remarkable achievements during the quadren-

nium. We ask that the office address of this Society with the names of the executive officers, together with this action of the General Conference, be published in the Discipline.

We recommend that authority be given to the Board of Bishops to appoint a representative on the advisory council with whom the Board of Managers may advise during the quadrénium, with the understanding that the expense of the representative be met by the American Bible Society.

### ¶ 582. The American Red Cross

*Whereas*, From various parts of the world, and particularly from many sections of war-stricken Europe, there comes from thousands upon thousands of God's children and our brothers and sisters, the cry of "Help us or we die"; and

*Whereas*, The Red Cross is continuing its great work of the war time, and, so far as its resources and means will permit, is facing the fearful conditions which exist and is nobly responding to the call of the suffering and the dying, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we, the representatives of the Methodist Episcopal Church, assembled in General Conference in the city of Des Moines, State of Iowa, do hereby record our full and sincere indorsement of the great humanitarian and Christian purposes of the Red Cross and our highest recognition of its wide service of mercy and brotherly love to suffering humanity; and that we do urge all people, and because of the representative character in which we are here assembled, do particularly urge the members and friends of our Church connection to generously support by effort and means, the far-reaching and merciful work of the Red Cross; and that the government of the United States should take appropriate action to help meet the crisis as to human existence in portions of Europe.

**¶ 583. Board of Conference Claimants**

*Whereas*, The new provisions for support and maintenance of the Board of Conference Claimants may not be operative in time to provide for the coming year; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the provisions for its support in the Discipline of 1916 shall remain in force until June 30, 1921, or until otherwise provided by the Council of the Boards of Benevolence through the Pastoral Charges; and

*Resolved*, That this resolution be printed in the appendix to the Discipline, with a suitable notation in connection with the new legislation.

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**¶ 584. Equalization Fund**

*NOTE.—This was referred to the Council of Boards of Benevolence for consideration and action.*

In order to equalize among the several Annual Conferences the claims for annuities paid by them for years of service rendered in other Conferences than their own, there shall be created an Equalization Fund, the receipts from which shall be distributed among the several Conferences in proportion to their liability for the years of service of their Retired Ministers which have been rendered in other Conferences than their own. Such equalization fund shall become a part of the connectional apportionment of the Board of Conference Claimants, and be distributed directly to the Annual Conferences in proportion to their several liabilities for such years of service; provided that the rate paid to an Annual Conference shall in no case exceed the rate paid by such Conference to its Conference Claimants.

The Board of Conference Claimants shall determine the processes by which this legislation shall be put into operation and the Council of Boards of Benevolence shall add to the apportionment made for the support and main-

tenance of the Board, the securing of endowments for Annual Conferences and the Board, and increasing its annual dividend to the poorer and weaker Conferences, an adequate amount for the equalization fund.

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**¶ 585. Ministerial Support**

*Whereas*, The need of giving special attention to the question of ministerial support has been evidenced by the response of the Church to the efforts of the Commission on Finance in this important matter; and

*Whereas*, There is need of special sustentation work for the emergencies of ministerial life, especially in the weaker places, and also for the immediate consideration of providing for the old age of faithful supply Pastors; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Board of Conference Claimants be authorized to consider these matters, in order to accomplish the purposes stated in the preamble, and to present the results of their deliberations to the Council of Boards of Benevolence, with suitable recommendations.

And further, that all reports and data bearing upon these interests be placed at the disposal of the above Board.

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**¶ 586. Distribution of Book Concern Produce to Foreign Conferences**

*Resolved*, That ¶ 393 shall be interpreted as applying only to the Conferences and Missions in the United States of America, leaving the Foreign Conferences to be provided for by the Book Committee upon such basis as it shall deem equitable.—*Journal*, 1916.

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**¶ 587. Week of Prayer**

The General Conference regards the annual observance of the Week of Prayer in concert with the Christian

people of other denominations as highly salutary; as an appropriate recognition of the unity of the Church; as a suitable expression of faith in the efficacy of prayer; and as well calculated to promote the spirituality, activity, and prosperity of the Church of Christ.—*Journal*, 1872.

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### ¶ 588. Day of Prayer for Colleges

The Thursday preceding the second Sunday in February shall be observed as the Day of Prayer for Colleges in all Methodist institutions, on which day special effort should be made to present the claims of Christ in an effective manner to the heart and conscience of every student.

We recommend that pastors in their prayers especially remember our institutions of learning, their faculties and students, that prosperity and spiritual blessing may attend them.

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### ¶ 589. Family Worship in the Home

*Whereas*, One of the great and pressing needs of the Church to-day is a revival of home religion and in worship in the home; and

*Whereas*, Every home has its atmosphere, where freedom and love prevail, restraint is eliminated, confidences exchanged, and there is the most perfect and most restful liberty; and

*Whereas*, It is in the home where the first concern for souls is represented in the yearning of father and mother for their children, and out of this devotion of life toward life there is developed the consuming flame of a passion that only love truly knows; and

*Whereas*, It is our desire to improve the spiritual side of the home life by the inculcation of Christian virtues through the exercise of religious practices in order that a genuine revival of religious life and expressions of

spiritual power may be more fully manifested; therefore, be it

*Resolved, First:* That we reaffirm our faith in the spiritual power and moral uplift which comes to the individual as a result of a regular and systematic observance of daily prayer—reading of the Scriptures—a careful study of God's Word—religious conversation and discussion of moral and spiritual subjects in the home; and,

*Second:* That, we appeal to all Methodist families to institute and establish in their homes such a form or program of systematic family worship as may seem advisable and best adapted to meet the spiritual needs and requirements of the various members of the household; and

*Third:* That, we earnestly call upon and urge our Pastors and all others having leadership among our people to lay special emphasis upon this very vital subject and endeavor as far as possible to put into operation plans which will bring about the glorification of Jesus Christ in the home through a definite and systematic plan of family worship.

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### ¶ 590. Temperance and Prohibition

In a spirit of devout thanksgiving to Almighty God we celebrate the greatest victory ever won by the temperance forces. National prohibition, for which our fathers and mothers and we also have prayed and suffered and fought, became a fact on January 16, 1920. The liquor traffic, once rich and powerful, solidly intrenched behind barriers of law and social custom, proud of its political alliances and its control of legislative action, can now hide behind no license, can cloak itself in no subterfuge, policy, nor alleged rights; can claim no place in the orderly, law-abiding life of the nation. It is an outlaw wherever floats the American flag. Long under the curse of God, the traffic in liquor

which our Methodist fathers declared "cannot be legalized without sin," has now been made a crime under the orderly processes of constitutional procedure. No amendment to the federal Constitution has ever received such prompt and overwhelming approval at the hands of the people. The victory is as decisive as it is glorious.

### *The Success of Prohibition*

In every part of our land the prohibition law, though not yet adequately enforced, has proved a veritable emancipation of the people. It has broken chains of alcoholism; it has decreased drunkenness; it has relieved distress of poverty; has lessened the work of criminal courts; it has greatly reduced the necessity for inebriate farms, prisons, alcoholic wards in hospitals and other institutions formerly required to care for the victims of the liquor traffic. It has increased deposits in savings banks, opened new lines of commercial opportunity, improved the attendance in schools, and redeemed many homes from squalor and sorrow. It has deepened respect for law and order, steadied the public mind in time of great industrial unrest, given to labor greater efficiency, stimulated all phases of Church activity, and strengthened the fight against all forms of evil.

### *The Fight Still On*

Though the traffic in intoxicating drinks has been prohibited by the action of a great and sovereign people, the forces that fattened upon it are striving to reinstate their nefarious trade. Under the guise of a campaign for beer and light wines the attempt is being made to restore the use of intoxicating beverages, to reestablish the saloon with its long train of unspeakable evils, and thus to nullify the Eighteenth Amendment. The prohibition movement always has been a movement against beer and wine as well as against ardent spirits. Efforts to exempt them from prohibition laws have been repeatedly rejected by the people and prohibition reaffirmed by largely increased

majorities. The brewery has been even more a source of evil than the distillery, and stands condemned. The real fight of the prohibition forces to-day is against beer. The criminal liquor forces are seeking through political action to rob the nation of the fruits of victory. Nullification of the prohibition amendment by repeal or emasculation of the federal enforcement laws can be accomplished by a mere majority vote of Congress.

### *Law Enforcement*

The Eighteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States is not a mere remedial statute or a bit of police regulation. It is a concrete statement, in terms of advancing civilization, of an enduring principle of human government. It voices a universal law, that only a sober people can make a growing, progressive, and Christian nation. There can be no successful challenge of the propriety of incorporating in the basic law of a nation the abiding underlying moral convictions of its people.

We denounce those, whether in high positions or low, who would nullify the supreme law of the land on the plea of States' rights. We demand the utmost vigilance and fearlessness on the part of our executives and all officers whose duty it is to enforce the law. We call upon the people in their several communities to assist the officers in detecting and punishing violations of law. Patriotic as well as Christian motives should urge every citizen to defend the sovereignty of the United States in the destruction of the liquor traffic quite as eagerly as in the abolition of the slave trade.

This nation is no longer a license nation. Neither is it a nation without law. That for which we have stood and still stand before the world, the orderly rule of the majority, under a reign of law, must and shall be maintained regardless of all who oppose or whatever its preservation may cost. We utter the words soberly

knowing all they may imply. "We cannot other, God help us."

For weary, terrible years the prohibition forces have submitted to what they believed unjust law because it was the law. Now, when the Constitution declares that the beverage liquor traffic in alcohol shall no longer exist, we demand that its advocates, once in the majority but now in the minority, submit or suffer the legal consequence of the attempts, in a democracy, to set up a tyranny of brutality and terror.

#### *The W. C. T. U. and Other Organizations*

We gratefully recognize and commend the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, that pioneer organization of American women, and all other temperance and prohibition agencies which have contributed by their effort and sacrifice to the triumphant position now occupied by the forces of sobriety and civic righteousness.

#### *The Board of Temperance*

Methodism's own organization in the field of prohibition is recognized everywhere as a strong factor in the magnificent results accomplished. Devoting particular attention to the creation of moral sentiment and civic opinion through the carrying on of research work, the circulation of literature, the holding of public meetings, the conduct of total abstinence campaigns, and by personal interviews with legislators, this great Board has given ample proof of its value as a militant Christian power in the war against alcohol throughout the nation. We gladly give our confidence to its wise and aggressive tactics. Independent in its thinking and planning, it has always been ready to cooperate with all worthy temperance agencies. Ready to take the initiative, it has been careful not to outrun public sentiment. Basing its activity on the tested foundation of scientific investigation, it adopts new and original methods. Faithful to its heavy responsibilities, and loyal to the traditions

of the great Church it represents, the Board of Temperance has become a terror to the lawless liquor traffic and a bulwark of national defense.

In the larger field of activities among the nations of the earth we confidently expect its work to be as successful as at home. By correcting misstatements as to the results of prohibition in America, by disseminating accurate information, by conducting inquiries into conditions in other lands, and by cooperating in every acceptable way with prohibition forces everywhere, the Board of Temperance will do its part in creating a new and sober world. It thoroughly deserves and will continue to receive the hearty support of all our people.

#### *The Anti-Saloon League*

Twelve years ago, repeating it at the succeeding General Conferences, the Methodist Episcopal Church recognized the Anti-Saloon League as the approved agency for cooperation with members of other churches and temperance organizations for the destruction of the liquor traffic. As the direct result of the marvelous efficiency in the creation, mobilization, and direction of the moral sentiment of the nation made possible by the combination of zeal and wisdom which has thus reenforced Methodist militancy by coordinating it with the patriotic moral conviction of the membership and constituency of other churches, the liquor traffic is now a national outlaw by the terms of the fundamental law of the American republic.

In this present hour both of initial triumph and gravest peril, when the fate of world prohibition hangs upon our making good in repelling the counter-attack in America and when the permanence of prohibition here depends upon destroying the liquor traffic everywhere so that it will have no legal base of operations anywhere, we call upon our churches and people not only to continue but largely to increase their moral and financial support of this tested agency for the accomplishment of those phases

of the enforcement, conservation, and extension of prohibition which cannot be wisely undertaken or successfully carried through by any single denomination as such, to the end that we may discharge our responsibility and utilize our opportunity under the slogan "Enforce Prohibition in America—Redeem the World from Alcohol."

### *The World League Against Alcoholism*

As a world church, Methodism is deeply concerned, not only with a more intensified interest in temperance and prohibition activities within the Church in all its branches and in all lands, but also with the fullest cooperation, on the part of Methodist people everywhere, with the constituency of other Christian Churches and with all other moral and religious forces throughout the world.

We, therefore, most heartily indorse the "World League Against Alcoholism" which has been officially constituted by joint action of the Anti-Saloon League of America and similar organizations in most of the leading countries of the world.

We call upon our people everywhere to cooperate with this great international agency for righteousness in order that the omnipartisan and interdenominational methods which have proved so successful in the fight against the liquor evil in the United States may thus be applied to the solution of the world's liquor problem, to the end that the prohibition of the liquor traffic in all its forms may speedily come to be a fixed policy of all government, and that sobriety may be completely established in the earth.

### *Facing the Future*

Our faces are set flintlike to the future.

No great human welfare problem can be permanently solved by action of a single nation. The Robinson-Crusoe stage of the prohibition movement belongs to the

past. The liquor evil is a world problem and as such requires a world-wide remedy.

Protection of prohibition in the United States requires international action. Just as township, municipal, and county prohibition could not be fully enforced without State action and just as State prohibition could not be fully enforced without national action, so in this day of close international relationships, when the several different countries of the earth constitute a great neighborhood of human interest, national prohibition cannot be fully enforced without world action.

On the other hand, the first essential to a successful movement for world prohibition is of necessity the strict enforcement of the prohibitory law in the United States.

We deplore the fact that the liquor industry, driven from this country, is attempting to establish itself in the Orient and in other parts of the world where the complex problems presented in connection with native races are thus made more complex and the progress of Christian missionary work is thus greatly hindered. We pledge our brothers in the foreign field our fullest cooperation and assistance in combating this new phase of this old problem. We insist that the Congress of the United States refuse the protection of the American flag abroad to any institution outlawed by the American government at home.

The world need of financial rehabilitation, the necessity for increased production and efficiency for social reconstruction, as well as all other general world conditions, present overwhelming convincing reasons for the immediate extension of prohibition activity on a universal scale.

The new spirit of liberty and democracy, manifesting itself in the creation of new nations and the reorganization of old ones, presents an unprecedented opportunity for the Church aggressively to press the fight against this great enemy of Christian civilization.

"Now God be thanked who has  
Matched us with His hour."

Rising to the high privilege which is ours, responding to the solemn duty which has been laid upon us, and confidently trusting in the leadership of Almighty God with renewed vigor, fixed determination, and consecrated abandon, we move forward to the larger conflict which does not cease until the liquor traffic has been banished from the face of the earth.

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### ¶ 591. Child Welfare

We reaffirm our statement in ¶ 585 of the Discipline of 1916, emphasizing the need of child welfare work, and that we commend the work of the Methodist Child Welfare Society, whose objects and purposes are to carry on work for destitute and neglected children with reference to home-finding and supervision, probationary care of the delinquent, specialized health-care, information in mental hygiene and visualization, to the end that not only the children of the churches, but all children who have been overlooked and neglected may find available for their benefit, that care of body, mind and spirit that is essential to the realization of an abundant Christian life. [*This report was adopted and, on motion, was referred to the newly organized Board of Hospitals and Homes.—EDITOR.*]

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### ¶ 592. Social Creed of the Churches

The Methodist Episcopal Church stands for equal rights and complete justice for all men in all stations of life; for the protection of the family, by the single standard of purity, uniform divorce laws, proper regulation of marriage, and proper housing; for such regulation of the conditions of toil for women as shall safeguard the physical and moral habits of the community; and

for the fullest possible development of every child, especially by the provision of proper education and recreation, and by the abolition of child labor.

It stands for the abatement and prevention of poverty, by the protection of the individual and of society from the social, economic, and moral waste of the liquor traffic, by the conservation of health and by the protection of the worker from dangerous machinery, occupational diseases and injuries.

It stands for the right of all men to the opportunity for self-maintenance, safeguarding this right against encroachments of every kind; and for the protection of workers from the hardships of enforced unemployment.

It stands for suitable provision for the workers in old age and for those incapacitated by injury; for the principle of conciliation and arbitration in industrial disputes, and for a release from employment one day in seven.

It stands for the gradual and reasonable reduction of the hours of labor to the lowest practicable point, and for that degree of leisure for all, which is a condition of the highest human life; for a living wage as a minimum in every industry and for the highest wage that each industry can afford, and for the most equitable division of the product of industry that can ultimately be devised.

It stands for the right of employees and employers alike, to organize.

It stands for a new emphasis upon the application of Christian principles to the acquisition and use of property.

### *The Church and the Community*

The particular contribution of the Churches to community life is the development of its eternal values.

They must persistently demand that the program of the community be framed with the purpose of developing, not only material comfort and prosperity, but righteousness and justice, in order that brotherhood may be

a fact as well as an inspiration, and so God may come to dwell with man.

### *The Community Service Program*

In the general field of social welfare we recommend that during the next four years the Churches concentrate attention, or at least put stress upon Unemployment, Housing, Prison Reform, Recreation. These may well constitute a four years' program of study and action for the federated Churches of any city or State. Even the Churches in rural communities will find an opportunity to work in one of these fields, each in its own community, while it aids the development of adequate State measures in other communities. We also urge country Churches to consider in this connection their duty regarding "Farm Labor," "Tenancy," and "Rural Cooperation" according to the recommendations of the Country Church Commission of the Federal Council.

In these and all other fields of social progress the Church must constantly urge its members to support concrete measures. But it has also a higher task. Its supreme social function is to educate the community in the fundamental principles which underlie these movements of social progress, to uphold the ideals by which they are conceived, to develop the atmosphere in which they are born, the individuals who will carry them to maturity, and the dynamic which will make them effective.

### *Training for Service*

In every center of population there should be some organized method of training Church members for voluntary service to the community, and for putting them to work with community agencies. This can be worked out by the federated Churches in conjunction with local social workers and educational institutions. It is possible to get such training in rural communities through institutes,

conducted jointly by the Churches and the State forces of education.

### *Industrial Conditions*

We call upon our members as employers, investors, or wage-earners to do everything that lies in their power to initiate and promote measures and movements that make for the realization of our standard:

*"A living wage as a minimum in every industry and the highest wage that each industry can afford, and the most equitable division of the product of industry that can ultimately be devised."*

The Church has spent much toil and money in providing higher education. Its membership is increasingly an educated group, yet the toiling mass of mankind was the rock from which it was originally hewn, the pit from which it was first dug. With this history behind it, if the Church should stand aloof from the struggle of the industrial toilers of to-day to secure time and strength for the discipline of education, its right hand would lose its cunning and its tongue cleave to the roof of its mouth. Because the teachings of Jesus demand equality of opportunity for all, because their application means both the brotherhood of leisure and the brotherhood of toil, we call upon all our members to support the efforts of the industrial workers to secure release from fatigue and the benefits of leisure.

### *Industrial Democracy*

With the demand for industrial democracy the Churches are intensely concerned, for democracy is the expression of Christianity.

The first method of realizing democracy in industry is through collective bargaining.

It would naturally follow that since the Church is itself a large employer of labor, directly and indirectly, it must itself in some way realize collective bargaining: either in one of the two forms which are now developed

or in some other yet to be devised. A sound principle to govern the Church as an employer would appear to be that in recognition of the price being paid by organized labor to improve conditions of industry, on account of its general contribution to the community welfare, every possible endeavor should be made to work with it, in so far as its methods are just, and in so far as the rights of unorganized men are not infringed upon.

Christianity moves up to higher ground. It requires the supremacy of the principle of cooperation in the industrial world. The Church must, therefore, clearly teach the principle of the fullest possible cooperative control and ownership of industry and of the natural resources upon which industry depends, in order that men may be spurred to develop the methods that shall adequately express this principle. Then will industry become a religious experience, developing mutual service and sacrifice, the interpretation in economic terms of the brotherhood of man and the Fatherhood of God.—*Journal*, 1916.

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### ¶ 593. For the Settlement of Industrial Unrest

*Whereas*, A grave situation exists in connection with industrial operations throughout our land, and because of conditions there are unrest, discontent, and lack of production; and

*Whereas*, There is great need in our country, not only to create production, but in addition thereto, create a desire to produce; and

*Whereas*, Many of the industrial institutions throughout the United States as well as the transportation facilities are either tied up or seriously handicapped in handling the commerce of our nation; and

*Whereas*, This General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church is composed of delegates, representing millions of people who are vitally and directly interested in this serious situation; and

*Whereas*, The deliberations and action of this body are of interest, not only to those whom we as delegates represent, but the moral influence of our deliberations and action are to a great extent interesting, impressive, and influencing to the mind and thought of the entire civilized world; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we earnestly request and call upon and urge those who are now in any way involved in planning for and in arranging adjustments looking toward the settlement of social and economic misunderstanding and disorders, to do their thinking and planning in the terms of the gospel and according to the teachings of our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we individually and collectively as far as in our power may lie, endeavor to make Jesus Christ, King in finance, in industry, in government; to steady, to quiet and redeem society in all the ranges and reaches of personal life and relations.—*Journal*, 1920.

#### ¶ 594. Work Among Non-English-Speaking People

The District Superintendent shall bring before the Quarterly Conference the need of missionary work by the Local Church among the non-English-speaking population. And if deemed advisable the Quarterly Conference shall authorize the Standing Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension to organize evening classes for the instruction of foreigners living in the community in the principles of Christianity and good citizenship, and shall also in connection with the superintendent of the Sunday School organize classes in the Sunday School for the instruction of the children of non-English-speaking people.—*Journal*, 1916.

#### ¶ 595. Unification of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South

Your Special Committee on Unification, to which was referred the plan of unification transmitted to the Gen-

eral Conference by the Joint Commission on Unification, begs to report as follows:

The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church has received with profound interest and has carefully considered the suggested plan of unification transmitted by the Joint Commission of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. We commend the Joint Commission for its careful and thorough work and express our deep appreciation of its painstaking efforts. While it has brought us face to face with the difficulties involved in the creation of a plan for unification, it has also revealed the imperative need of union and clearly advanced the Church nearer the realization for which we devoutly pray.

In view, however, of the fact that there appear to be in each Church considerable numbers who are not entirely satisfied with the plan suggested for consideration, many of whom would be distressed if it were adopted in its present form; and in order that the members of each Church shall be in full accord when unification is accomplished, it is our conviction that every possible effort should be made to reach an early conclusion that may be acceptable to all members of both Churches at home and abroad.

Realizing the difficulty, and the prolonged delay that must inevitably result from any attempt of the General Conferences of the two Churches meeting in separate sessions, at intervals of two years from each other, to modify or amend any proposed constitution, we believe that such amendment, modification, or substitution as may be necessary, can be best and most satisfactorily accomplished by joint and concurrent action, which can only be had by a body, in which both Churches are represented, meeting together.

We therefore propose, if agreeable to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, that a joint General Convention be called, to be composed of a total membership of

not less than two hundred nor more than four hundred members, Ministers and Laymen in equal numbers from each of the two Churches, chosen in such manner as each General Conference may determine, to which shall be committed the plan submitted by the Joint Commission and any other plan or plans that may be proposed.

We further recommend that the suggested General Convention be authorized and instructed to consider the whole matter of unification, and to create and submit any plan of union that may seem to it desirable and possible for such constitutional procedure as the Discipline of each Church may require; provided that no plan shall be submitted that does not have the approval of each delegation and the approval of the Convention as a whole. If the General Convention herein suggested is approved by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, it shall determine the number of delegates which shall constitute the Convention, and the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall be governed accordingly.

We reaffirm our deep conviction that the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, should be reunited in one Church. And so earnestly do we desire such a reunion that we declare ourselves ready to accept any equitable plan of union that shall be mutually satisfactory to the membership of both Churches. It is our further judgment and conviction that a settlement of the fixed purpose of union will greatly facilitate the preparation of a satisfactory plan of union.

In order to make full provision for further negotiations on whatever basis may be found most desirable we recommend the continuance of a Commission on Unification composed of five Bishops, ten Ministers and ten Laymen, appointed as follows: Five Bishops appointed by the Board of Bishops, fifteen members from the General Conference Districts, to be elected by and from the

delegates of the General Conference Districts, Laymen being chosen from each odd numbered and a Minister from each even numbered District; and five members at large, three Ministers and two Laymen chosen by the Board of Bishops after the district representatives are chosen.

This Commission is hereby authorized and instructed to act with the Commission from the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, either in arranging for the convention proposed above, or in perfecting the plans already before the two Churches, or in working out new plans of unification for submission to the Churches. It is also directed to communicate this action of the General Conference to the Commission of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

We further recommend that this General Conference shall adjourn its session at Des Moines, Iowa, to meet in an adjourned session on the call of the Bishops at such time and place as they may determine for the purpose of considering and acting upon any report or recommendations that may be submitted to it by the Joint Convention or the Commission on Unification; and that the Commission on Entertainment of this General Conference be and are hereby authorized and directed to make the arrangements therefor and to provide entertainment for such adjourned session when it shall be called.

And we further declare that in committing this important subject to our Commission we do so in fullest confidence in their wisdom and godly judgment and their knowledge of our desire that in all things the will of God may be accomplished. And we pray that they may be divinely guided, so as to hasten the answer to the Lord's intercessory prayer, "That they may be one"; that united Methodism, unhampered by State or national lines, unhindered by oceans or mountains, undivided by races or languages, may help give speedy answer to the disciple's prayer taught them and us by our Lord himself,

"Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

The Board of Bishops are hereby authorized and instructed to appoint the delegates of the Methodist Episcopal Church to the proposed Joint General Convention, provided that such Joint General Convention is agreed to by the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. In the appointment of such delegates the Board of Bishops shall give due regard to a proper geographical distribution of the same, also to an adequate representation of those interests at home and abroad that should have consideration in the Convention.

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**¶ 596. Union with Churches Other than the Methodist Episcopal Church, South**

*Resolved*, That we empower the Commission on Unification with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to conduct negotiations with any other Church which may be willing to consider terms and conditions of union with our denomination.—*Journal*, 1916, *Report No. 5, Committee of Sixty*.

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**¶ 597. Comity and Cooperation with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South**

Your Committee on Federation has carefully considered the communication to Bishop Luther B. Wilson from Bishop Collins Denny, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, referred by the General Conference to this Committee, and recommends as follows:

1. That we heartily reciprocate the desire of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to facilitate such adjustments or exchanges of territory, as may be practicable, with a view to the best economy of our resources, and to the highest degree of comity and cooperation between our two branches of Methodism in their mutual purpose and work for the kingdom of God.

2. That the Board of Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church be authorized to appoint a Commission composed of one Bishop, three Ministers and three Laymen, to cooperate with a like Commission from the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to consider what steps can appropriately be taken in the above matter, and to report their conclusions from time to time to the respective authorities concerned.

### ¶ 598. Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America

Your Committee on Unification, to which was referred the Report and Commission of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, begs to report as follows:

The Quadrennial Report of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America has been received by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church with deep interest.

The Federal Council, formally organized in Philadelphia in December, 1906, includes over thirty denominations. The Methodist Episcopal Church was one of the original constituent bodies creating the Federal Council, its action having been taken in May, 1908, in Baltimore. The Council has been a significant factor for stimulus and conservation throughout the period of deepening interest in cooperative movements among the Churches.

*Resolved*, 1. That the Bishops be authorized to appoint the number of representatives and alternates allowed by the Constitution of the Federal Council, to represent the Methodist Episcopal Church, as members of the said Council during the coming quadrennium and to request the attendance of the appointees at the quadrennial meeting to be held in December, 1920.

2. That, in accordance with the request of the Federal Council, representatives be appointed to the Ecumenical Conference or to the preliminary conferences looking

thereto, and that this be referred to the Bishops with power.

3. That with a view to ascertaining the wisest procedure in the interests of Church cooperation as a whole, we suggest that the Federal Council appoint a Committee representative of its constituent bodies to enter into conference with the Executive Committee of the Inter-Church World Movement and to hold such other conferences as may be found necessary.

4. That the Methodist Episcopal Church share in the expenses of the Federal Council to an amount not to exceed \$4,000 annually, for the general work and \$2,000 annually for the Washington office, the same to be provided for as hitherto in the same manner as are the Commissions appointed by the General Conference.

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#### ¶ 599. Fifth Ecumenical Conference

In reference to memorials regarding the Ecumenical Methodist Commission your Committee reports as follows:

We recommend (1) That the Board of Bishops be authorized to appoint the delegates to the Fifth Ecumenical Conference, including five of their own number, assigned to the Methodist Episcopal Church. (2) That the Board of Bishops be authorized to fill all vacancies in the Methodist Ecumenical Commission. (3) That five hundred dollars a year be appropriated from the General Conference Fund for the expenses of the Ecumenical Commission of our Church and the Treasurer of the General Conference be authorized to pay the same. (4) If it shall be necessary to raise additional funds for expenses, the Commission is authorized to do so by personal appeal.

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#### ¶ 600. World Council of Faith and Order

Your special Committee on Unification, to which was

referred the report concerning the World Council of Faith and Order and the address of Mr. R. H. Gardner, secretary of the Promotion Committee of the World Council of Faith and Order, begs to report as follows:

The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church desires to make record of its appreciation of the presence at this General Conference of Mr. R. H. Gardner, secretary of the Promotion Committee of the World Council of Faith and Order. The progress of the negotiations looking toward a World Conference appears in the fact that at this time seventy-two cooperating Commissions have been appointed by Churches all over the world. A preliminary meeting is announced to be held at Geneva, Switzerland, August 12-26, 1920. At this meeting arrangements, it is expected, are to be made that will give shape to final plans.

*Resolved*, That the Commission authorized in 1912 and continued by action of the General Conference in 1916 be continued for the coming quadrennium, and that the Bishops be authorized and requested further, within their discretion, to appoint representatives of the Methodist Episcopal Church to be present at the proposed preliminary conference to be held in Geneva with the understanding that said appointees be without power to commit the Methodist Episcopal Church either to statement or policy.

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#### ¶ 601. American Council on Organic Unity of the Churches of Christ

Your special Committee on Unification, to which was referred the communication from the American Council on Organic Union of Churches of Christ, begs to report as follows:

The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church has received with deep appreciation the communication from the American Council on Organic Union of Churches of Christ conveyed to it by the Rev. George

Warren Richards, D.D., professor of Church History in the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church of the U. S. A., Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in his eloquent address before the Conference on May 17th.

The proposed form of organization in declaring organic union as its objective and federated action as its method indicates a close relation to other organizations for inter-denominational action which at this and previous General Conferences have received the consideration of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

We cordially recommend to the members of our Church the careful study of the plan of organization as an important contribution to the effort in America and throughout the world to secure among the Churches of Christ a true coordination and, in the ultimate result, an organic union.

In response to the request of Professor Richards presented on behalf of the council represented by him the General Council authorizes the Bishops to appoint within their discretion a Committee not to exceed nine in number, which Committee shall be the authorized agency of the Methodist Episcopal Church in consultation with similar Committees from other bodies, and shall, without commitment by the Church in the interval, make report to the General Conference in 1924.

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**¶ 602. Effectiveness of Actions of this General Conference**

*Whereas*, It has been decided on the recommendation of the Committee on Judiciary, that the legislative acts of a General Conference do not become effective until its final adjournment, and

*Whereas*, This General Conference has voted not to adjourn finally at this time, but that when it adjourns, it be to meet on the call of the Bishops, therefore

*Resolved*, That all official relations and all legislative

## ¶ 603 GENERAL CONFERENCE DECISIONS

actions as determined by this General Conference during this session at Des Moines, Iowa, shall take effect and be in force on and after its adjournment to meet at the call of the Bishops, precisely as if the adjournment were *sine die*.

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## CHAPTER V GENERAL CONFERENCE DECISIONS

### ¶ 603. Constitutional Vote

“The two-thirds vote” of a General Conference required under ¶ 47 of the Discipline means two-thirds of the quorum present and voting and not two-thirds of the entire membership of the body.—*Journal*, 1916, *Judiciary No. 20*.

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### ¶ 604. Testimony

§ 1. Questions relating to the admissibility of evidence are Questions of Law.—*Journal*, 1848, p. 127.

§ 2. Documentary Evidence need not be spread on the Journal, but should be filed and preserved by the Secretary.—*Journal*, 1848, p. 129.

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### ¶ 605. Irregular Proceedings

§ 1. When an Annual Conference decides that a Preacher in Charge has received or expelled a member contrary to the Discipline the decision does not exclude the member so received, but restores the member so expelled.—*Journal*, 1852, p. 73, and *Journal*, 1860, p. 297.

§ 2. When the Annual Conference decides that a member of the Church has been expelled contrary to the Discipline, such act of the Conference does not restore him to good standing in the Church, but simply restores

him to membership in the Church; and when so restored he is placed in the position he occupied before he was tried—that is, he is an accused member; and hence the Preacher is not at liberty to give him a Certificate of Membership.—*Journal*, 1860, p. 298.

§ 3. Irregularity in the reception of a member is not a bar to trial.—*Journal*, 1860, p. 298.

§ 4. If an expelled member shall gain membership elsewhere without confession, contrition, and satisfactory reformation, his membership is null and void, and any Certificate of such membership should not be received.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 378.

### ¶ 606. Appeals

§ 1. When an expelled member has by neglect or otherwise forfeited his right to Appeal, a subsequent Quarterly Conference may not hear his Appeal.—*Journal*, 1860, p. 298.

§ 2. If a Member of an Annual Conference should die pending his Appeal to a Judicial Conference, his death shall not affect the Appeal, which may still be prosecuted by his heirs or legal representatives.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 375.

### ¶ 607. Members of Annual Conferences

§ 1. Every effective Preacher is entitled to an appointment within the Conference of which he is a member. His transfer to another Conference carries with it this right, and therefore should not be made without at the same time making adequate provision in a regular manner for his protection. Nevertheless, if a Preacher requests such a transfer to a Conference not to meet for some time after his transfer, he cannot complain if he does not receive work till the next ensuing session of the Conference after such transfer.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 372.

§ 2. An action of the General Conference changing

## ¶ 608 GENERAL CONFERENCE DECISIONS

the boundaries of an Annual Conference does not of itself affect the Membership of Supernumerary and Retired Ministers, their Membership remaining as before such action until adjusted by mutual agreement of the Conferences affected by such change of boundaries.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 374.

§ 3. No member of an Annual Conference may vote in the election of Delegates to the General Conference, nor upon proposed amendments to the Constitution who is not present at the time and place the vote is taken.—*Journal*, 1916.

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### ¶ 608. Orders

§ 1. The question of electing to Orders a Preacher who has not passed an examination on the Course of Study prescribed for Preachers applying for Orders may not be submitted to a vote of the Conference. A Bishop may not submit to the vote of an Annual Conference the question of obedience to a law of the Church.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 376.

§ 2. The Orders of a Roman Catholic Priest may not be recognized by an Annual Conference.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 373.

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### ¶ 609. Quarterly Conferences

§ 1. The Quarterly Conference may remove Trustees at any time for cause, where the statutes of the State do not prevent.—*Journal*, 1892, p. 490.

§ 2. Supernumerary and Retired Ministers residing out of the bounds of their Annual Conference are members of the Quarterly Conferences where they reside, and are entitled to vote therein.—*Journal*, 1892, p. 490.

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### ¶ 610. Annual Conferences Continuous

§ 1. Individual members come in and go out, but the Conference itself continues. It may adopt rules for its

government and Rules of Order for its Annual Sessions, the same to continue at its pleasure and to be amended or repealed as it may provide. In short, it is a permanent body.—*Journal*, 1904.

§ 2. The status of an Annual Conference is not affected by the fact that its membership falls below the number required by the Constitution for the organization of an Annual Conference.—*Journal*, 1904.

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### ¶ 611. Legal Notice Concerning Change of Boundaries

A Legal Notice must specifically indicate (a) the source from which it comes, whether from an Annual Conference, Mission Conference, or from a majority of the District Superintendents or Mission Superintendents, as the case might be; (b) the purpose of the Conference, Mission Conference, Mission, or District Superintendents by whom the notice is issued, which requests a change of boundaries; (c) the character in general of the change in boundaries sought to be effected.

The notice must be served in writing, and delivered to the Secretary of each and every Conference which is to be affected by the proposed change.—*Journal*, 1916. Revision No. 2. See also Report No. 9, Committee on Judiciary, *Journal*, 1920.

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### ¶ 612. Consolidation of Churches

§ 1. The Bishops have full power under the law and usage of the Methodist Episcopal Church to consolidate Churches and appoint one Pastor for the united Congregation.

In so doing they exercise an authority which from the beginning of our distinct Church life has been held to be resident in the Bishop presiding in an Annual Conference by virtue of his power to "fix the appointments of the Preachers."—*Journal*, 1900, p. 422.

## ¶ 613 GENERAL CONFERENCE DECISIONS

§ 2. When two charges, supplied for the time being by the same preacher, retain their separate organizations, each charge is entitled to elect its own delegate to the Lay Electoral Conference.—*Journal*, 1912.

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### ¶ 613. Negotiations Between Preachers and People

Direct negotiations between Pastors and Churches in advance of the making of the appointments by the Bishops are contrary to the spirit of our itinerant ministry and subversive of our ecclesiastical polity, and as such should be discouraged by our Bishops, Pastors, and people.—*Journals*, 1884 and 1912.

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### ¶ 614. Union with Other Churches

Whenever any Sýnod, Conference, Church Society, or other body of Christians, agreeing in doctrine with the Methodist Episcopal Church, shall desire to become a component part of said Church, the Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church most nearly or conveniently related, territorially, to such Synod, Conference, Church Society, or body, shall have power, with the consent of the Bishop presiding, on being satisfied with the agreement of such Synod, Conference, Church Society, or body of Christians with the Methodist Episcopal Church in Doctrine and Discipline, to receive such organization in a body into our communion. / Ministers so received shall hold such relations and enjoy such privileges as they would hold or enjoy if admitted individually on their credentials. Members so received shall sustain the same relation to the local Church as they would sustain if received individually by certificates. Before such reception, however, a properly authenticated register of such ministers and members shall be deposited with the Secretary of the Conference considering such reception. In all cases of the reception of Churches, satisfactory assurance shall be given to the Conference that

the property shall be placed in the custody of Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and that the Churches will receive pastors appointed by the authority of the General Conference of the Church.—*Journal*, 1896, p. 308.

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**¶ 615. Pro Rata Distribution of Ministerial Support**

The law of the Church in regard to the *pro rata* division of the amounts raised for ministerial support is binding, and it is incumbent on the Pastors and District Superintendents to see that such *pro rata* division be made.—*Journal*, 1912.

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**¶ 616. Complaints and Charges**

§ 1. The question, "Are there any Complaints?" does not refer to Members of Annual Conferences, but refers (1) to charges of crime brought against Preachers on Trial in the Annual Conference; (2) to complaints made against the moral or official conduct of Local Preachers; and (3) to complaints made against the official conduct of members of the Quarterly Conference other than those named above.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 376.

§ 2. The dismissal of a preliminary complaint is not a bar to a new complaint.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 372.

§ 3. An Annual Conference has the right to refuse to entertain charges preferred against a member, and that one so accused does not have to be tried if the Conference refuses to entertain the charges.—*Journal*, 1916, *Judiciary*, No. 8.

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**¶ 617. Relief of Supply Preacher**

May an Annual Conference make provision for the relief of Local Preachers who have given long and faithful service as supply pastors? To this we reply that such provision, in our judgment, would be entirely proper, if

## ¶ 618 PROPOSED CHANGES IN CONSTITUTION

an Annual Conference wishes so to do, but such aid must be from funds other than those raised for Conference Claimants, and from funds which must have been raised specifically for the aid of persons other than Conference Claimants.—*Journal*, 1916, *Judiciary*, No. 17.

### CHAPTER VI

#### PROPOSED CHANGES IN CONSTITUTION

##### ¶ 618. Title: Ratio of Representation

Your Committee on Temporal Economy having before it a Memorial from the North Dakota Conference relating to the ratio of representation in the General Conference respectfully submits a proposal for an amendment to the Constitution. And if this is passed by the General Conference by the required vote, it is to be submitted to the Annual and Lay Electoral Conferences for their action.

That Chapter 2, ¶ 38, § 1, of the Discipline be amended as follows:

In line four *strike out* the word "Fourteen" and *substitute* therefor the word "forty-five"; and

In line five *strike out* the word "forty-five" and *substitute* therefor the word "ninety"; so that when amended the section shall read as follows:

"¶ 38, § 1. Each Annual Conference shall be entitled to at least one Ministerial Delegate. The General Conference shall not allow more than one Ministerial Delegate for every forty-five members of an Annual Conference, nor less than one for every ninety; but for a fraction of two thirds or more of the number fixed by the General Conference as the ratio of representation an Annual Conference shall be entitled to an additional delegate." [*Adopted by the General Conference May 26, 1920, by a vote of 573 for to 79 against.*]

**¶ 619. Title: Change of Quarterly to Local Conference**

Amend Division III, Chapter I, Article II, *by changing* the word "Quarterly" to "Local" so that the Article when amended will read as follows:

"¶ 35. A Local Conference shall be organized in each Pastoral Charge, and be composed of such persons and have such powers as the General Conference may direct."

*Resolved*, That if the above resolution is adopted by the General Conference, the Bishops be requested to submit the proposed amendment to the members of the Annual Conferences which shall meet in the years 1920 and 1921, and to the Lay Electoral Conferences which are hereby called for the purpose of voting on the aforesaid amendment and which shall meet at the time and place of the meeting of the Annual Conference in the years 1920 and 1921, within the bounds of which the Lay Electoral Conferences are constituted.

*Resolved*, That if the amendment shall obtain the necessary constitutional two-thirds vote of the General Conference and of the Annual and Lay Electoral Conferences, upon the announcement of the result by the General Superintendents, the said amendment shall prevail, and the word "Local" shall be substituted for the word "Quarterly", wherever it is connected with the word "Conference" in the Discipline, so that it shall read "Local Conference" instead of "Quarterly Conference."

*Resolved*, further, That the Secretary of the General Conference be, and he is hereby instructed, to send, within thirty days after the close of this General Conference, to all the District Superintendents, a copy of the action of the General Conference in this matter of "Local" instead of "Quarterly" Conferences, together with a copy of the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the Church, approved by this General Conference, and the District Superintendents shall take the necessary action to insure the timely election of delegates and reserve

## ¶ 620 PROPOSED CHANGES IN CONSTITUTION

delegates to the forthcoming special Lay Electoral Conference of 1920-1921, for all the Charges under their superintendency. [*Adopted by the General Conference May 26, 1920, by a vote of 676 for to 67 against.*]

### ¶ 620. Title: Lay Membership in Annual Conferences

Amend Art. III of Chapter I, and Art. III of Chapter II, Articles of Organization and Government of the Constitution, by striking out ¶¶ 36 and 39, *which read as follows:*

“¶ 36. The Traveling Preachers shall be organized by the General Conference into Annual Conferences, the sessions of which they are required to attend.”

“¶ 39, § 1. A Lay Electoral Conference shall be constituted quadrennially, or whenever duly called by the General Conference, within the bounds of each Annual Conference, for the purpose of electing Lay Delegates to the General Conference, and for the purpose of voting on constitutional changes. It shall be composed of lay members, one from each Pastoral Charge within its bounds, chosen by the lay members of the Charge over twenty-one years of age, in such manner as the General Conference may determine. Each Pastoral Charge shall also elect in the same manner one reserve delegate. Members not less than twenty-one years of age, and holding membership in the Pastoral Charges electing them, are eligible to membership in the Lay Electoral Conference.

“§ 2. The Lay Electoral Conference shall assemble at the seat of the Annual Conference on the first Friday of the session immediately preceding the General Conference unless the General Conference shall provide otherwise.

“§ 3. The Lay Electoral Conference shall organize by electing a President and Secretary, shall adopt its own Rules of Order, and shall be the judge of the election, returns, and qualifications of its own members.

"§ 4. Each Lay Electoral Conference shall be entitled to elect as many delegates to the General Conference as there are Ministerial Delegates from the Annual Conference. A Lay Electoral Conference may elect Reserve Delegates, not exceeding three in number, and not exceeding the number of its delegates. These elections shall be by ballot.

"§ 5. Lay members twenty-five years of age, or over, holding membership in Pastoral Charges within the bounds of the Lay Electoral Conference, and having been lay members of the Church five years next preceding, shall be eligible to election to the General Conference. Delegates-elect who cease to be members of the Church within the bounds of the Lay Electoral Conference by which they were elected shall not be entitled to seats in the General Conference."

*Insert in the Discipline in place of the paragraphs thus stricken out, the following:*

"§ 1. Annual Conferences shall be organized by the General Conference, composed of Traveling Preachers holding membership therein, together with one Lay Delegate from each Pastoral Charge within its bounds, such Lay Delegates to be elected each year by the lay members of the Charge, over twenty-one years of age, in such manner as the General Conference may determine. Each Charge shall also elect in like manner a Reserve Delegate. A Lay Delegate shall be over twenty-five years of age and for two years next preceding his election a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

"§ 2. The Ministerial members are required to attend all sessions unless excused by a vote of the Conference; the Lay members shall attend the sessions of Friday and Saturday, at which sessions the Ministerial members and Lay Delegates shall deliberate together in one body except as otherwise provided herein. When deliberating as one body they shall vote together with the following exception: A separate vote shall be taken when requested

## ¶ 620 PROPOSED CHANGES IN CONSTITUTION

by a majority of the entire body present and voting. In all cases of separate voting it shall require the concurrence of the two orders to adopt the measure proposed.

“§ 3. There shall be a Ministerial session of the Annual Conference which the Traveling Preachers are required to attend. In this session there shall be considered and determined all matters relating to the passing of character, examinations, trial of Ministerial members, course of study, ordination, and Conference relations; and a vote on constitutional changes shall be taken. In the Ministerial session next preceding the meeting of the General Conference there shall be elected by ballot as delegates to the General Conference the number of Ministerial Delegates and Reserves to which the Conference is entitled. At a Ministerial session the Traveling Preachers alone shall vote.

“§ 4. There shall be a session of the Annual Conference, which Lay Delegates are required to attend. It shall be held when a vote on constitutional changes is to be taken; and a meeting shall be held on the first Friday at the session of the Annual Conference in the year next preceding the meeting of the General Conference, in which Lay and Reserve Delegates shall be elected by ballot to the General Conference. These delegates must be twenty-five years of age, or over, hold membership in Pastoral Charges within the bounds of the Annual Conference, and must have been lay members of the Methodist Episcopal Church five years next preceding their election. Delegates-elect who cease to be members of the Church within the bounds of the Annual Conference by which they are elected shall not be entitled to seats in the General Conference. At a lay session, lay members alone shall vote.”

Also amend ¶ 38, § 1, by *inserting* the word “Ministerial” before the word “members” in the fourth line of the section, so that the section shall read as follows:

## PROPOSED CHANGES IN CONSTITUTION ¶ 620

"Each Annual Conference shall be entitled to at least one Ministerial Delegate. The General Conference shall not allow more than one Ministerial Delegate for every fourteen Ministerial members of an Annual Conference, nor less than one for every forty-five; but for a fraction of two-thirds or more of the number fixed by the General Conference as the ratio of representation an Annual Conference shall be entitled to an additional Delegate."

Also amend ¶ 46, § 2, *which now reads as follows:*

"The General Conference shall not organize nor authorize the organization of an Annual Conference with less than twenty-five members," by inserting the word "Ministerial" before the word "members," *so that it shall read:*

"The General Conference shall not organize nor authorize the organization of an Annual Conference with less than twenty-five Ministerial members."

*Resolved*, That if the above resolutions are adopted by the General Conference, the Bishops be requested to submit the proposed amendment to the Members of the Annual Conferences which shall meet in the years 1920 and 1921, and to the Lay Electoral Conferences which are hereby called for the purpose of voting on the aforesaid amendment and which shall meet at the time and place of the meeting of the Annual Conference within the bounds of which the Lay Electoral Conferences are constituted.

*Resolved*, That if the amendment shall obtain the necessary constitutional two-thirds vote of the General Conference and of the Annual and Lay Electoral Conferences, upon the announcement of the result by the General Superintendents, ¶¶ 36 and 39 of the Discipline shall be thereby repealed, and the words "or Lay Electoral" shall be stricken from ¶ 40, as shall be any other provisions contained in the Discipline which are inconsistent therewith.

*Resolved*, further, That the Secretary of the General Conference be, and he is hereby instructed, to send,

## ¶ 621      FORMS AND CONSTITUTIONS

within thirty days after the close of this General Conference, to all District Superintendents, a copy of the action of the General Conference in this matter of Lay representation in the Annual Conferences, together with a copy of the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the Church, approved by this General Conference; and the District Superintendents shall take the necessary action to insure the timely election of delegates and reserve delegates to the forthcoming special Lay Electoral Conferences of 1920-1921, for all the Charges under their superintendency. [*Adopted by the General Conference May 26, 1920, by a vote of 627 for to 64 against.*]

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## CHAPTER VII

### FORMS AND CONSTITUTIONS

#### ¶ 621, § 1. Constitution for a Sunday School

ARTICLE I. This School shall be called the Sunday School of ....., auxiliary to the Board of Sunday Schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and connected with the Quarterly Conference of ..... It shall consist of the Preacher in Charge, the Sunday School Committee appointed by the Quarterly Conference, the Officers, the Teachers, and the Pupils.

ARTICLE II. The object of this School shall be the promotion of Christian character through the devout and diligent study of the Word of God.

ARTICLE III. The Local Sunday School Board shall consist of the Pastor, who shall be *ex officio* chairman, the Director of Religious Education (when there is one), the Committee on Religious Instruction appointed by the Quarterly Conference, the Superintendent, who shall be *ex officio* Vice-Chairman, the Assistant Superintendents, the heads of departments, the duly elected Secretaries,

Treasurer, and Librarians, the Teachers of the School, the Assistant Teachers nominated and elected in the same way as the Teachers, the President of the Sunday School Missionary Society, the President of the Sunday School Temperance Society, and the Home Department Visitors, who shall be elected in the same way as the Teachers. In case of withdrawal of Officers or Teachers from the School they shall cease to be members of the Board.

ARTICLE IV. The Superintendent shall be elected annually by ballot by the Local Sunday School Board, subject to confirmation by the Quarterly Conference at its next session after such election. In case of a vacancy the Preacher in Charge shall superintend, or secure the superintending of, the School, until such time as the Superintendent elected by the Local Sunday School Board be confirmed by the Quarterly Conference. The other Officers of the School shall be elected annually, by ballot, by the Local Sunday School Board on ..... The Teachers of the School shall be nominated by the Superintendent, with the concurrence of the Pastor, and elected annually by the Sunday School Board.

ARTICLE V. Regular meetings of this Board shall be held on the ..... of each month, for the transaction of such business as relates to the interest of the School, at which the following order shall be observed: 1. Singing and prayer. 2. Calling roll. 3. Reading minutes. 4. Unfinished business. 5. Reports from Committees. 6. Reports from Superintendents. 7. Report from Treasurer. 8. Report from Librarian concerning the state of the Library and the number and kind of periodicals taken by the School. 9. Reports from the Pastor and from the Committee on Religious Instruction. 10. Reports from the Teachers. 11. Miscellaneous.

ARTICLE VI. At all meetings for business ..... shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VII. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the Pastor, the Superintendent, or by any three of the members.

ARTICLE VIII. In case of the withdrawal of Officers or Teachers from the School they cease to be members of this Board; and the place of any Officer or Teacher habitually neglecting his or her duty, inefficient, or guilty of improper conduct, or of teaching contrary to the accepted doctrines of our Church, may be declared vacant by a vote of two thirds of the Board present at any regular or special meeting. When a Teacher ceases to teach, without the consent of the Superintendent, membership in the Local Sunday School Board shall thereby be discontinued.

ARTICLE IX. Vacancies in offices may be filled at any monthly or special meeting, one month's notice having been given of the election.

ARTICLE X. This Constitution shall not be altered except by two thirds of all the members present at a meeting called for that purpose; and such alterations must be in harmony with the provisions of the Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Journal*.

## § 2. Constitution for a Sunday School Missionary Society

ARTICLE I. This Society shall be called the Missionary Society of the ——— Methodist Episcopal Sunday School, and shall be auxiliary to the Board of Foreign Missions, the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, and the Board of Sunday Schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

ARTICLE II. The object of this Society shall be to promote in all practical ways the interests of the Missionary cause within the bounds of this School.

ARTICLE III. All the members of this School shall be members of the Society.

ARTICLE IV. The Officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall together constitute a Board of Managers, to be elected annually by the Sunday School Board on the ..... of .....

ARTICLE V. A part of the session of the School on the first Sunday of every month shall be set apart for Missionary exercises and the reception of gifts for the cause of Missions; and it shall be the duty of the Board of Managers to provide for such exercises, varying the program from month to month in such a way as to engage actively as many of the School as possible in acquiring and supplying information and inspiration on Missionary topics. The Managers shall also devise and set in vigorous operation whatever schemes they can, such as, mite-boxes, collection cards, occasional Missionary concerts, or sales, etc., for increasing the Missionary contributions of the School.

ARTICLE VI. The President shall preside during that part of the school time which is devoted to Missions; the Secretary shall read at each monthly meeting a report of the previous meeting. The Treasurer shall receive the funds raised by the Society and pay them as follows: forty-five per cent to the Board of Foreign Missions, forty-five per cent to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, and ten per cent to the Board of Sunday Schools. The President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall make a semi-annual report to the Society on the first Sundays of April and October.

ARTICLE VII. Vacancies in the offices may be filled at any regular or special meeting of the Sunday School Board.

ARTICLE VIII. This Constitution shall not be altered except by vote of two thirds of all the members of the Local Sunday School Board, at a meeting called for that purpose.

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### ¶ 622. Charges

§ 1. In drafting charges and specifications for the trial of an accused member of the Church there should be a brief statement, defining the offense by its generic name, such as "Defamation," "Dishonesty," "Lying," "Impru-

dent Conduct," "Indulging Sinful Tempers or Words," "Disobedience to the Order and Discipline of the Church," "Neglecting Prayer Meetings," "Neglecting Class Meetings," etc. Each charge should be accompanied with one or more specifications germane to the charge; and the following forms may serve to illustrate the manner of preparing charges and specifications. The charges and specifications must be so varied in the several cases as to meet the facts or evidence relied upon for conviction. The bill of charges should be signed by one or more members of the Church, and must be addressed to the Preacher in Charge of the Circuit or Station in which the accused person holds his membership.

## § 2. IMMORAL CONDUCT

### FORM NO. I

*To A. B., Preacher in Charge of . . . . Circuit or Station:*

DEAR BROTHER: The undersigned, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, complains to you that C. D., a member of the same Church, has been guilty of Immoral Conduct, and he is hereby charged therewith as follows:

#### CHARGE: DEFAMATION

*Specification 1.* The said C. D., on the . . . . . day of . . . . , 19 . . . . , at . . . . , did write and publish, maliciously and in violation of the Rules of the Discipline, the following false and libelous matter of and concerning E. F., to wit: (*Here copy the writing complained of.*)

*Specification 2.* The said C. D., on the . . . . . day of . . . . , 19 . . . . , at . . . . , did utter and publish, maliciously and in violation of the Rules of the Discipline, the following defamatory and libelous matter of and concerning E. F., to wit: (*Here copy the matter published.*)

*Specification 3.* The said C. D., on the . . . . . day of . . . . , 19 . . . . , at . . . . , did maliciously and in violation of the Rules of the Discipline, speak, utter, and publish, in the hearing of divers persons, the following false and

slandorous words concerning E. F., that is to say, "*He* [meaning the said E. F.] *is a thief.*" [Signed] M. N.

## FORM No. II

[The address to the Preacher in Charge should be the same as in No. 1.]

## CHARGE: LYING

*Specification.* The said C. D., on the .... day of .... 19...., at ...., did, in violation of the Rules of the Discipline, falsely and willfully say (*here insert what was said*), or words to that effect, knowing the statement to be misleading and false. [Signed] M. N.

## § 3. IMPRUDENT AND UNCHRISTIAN CONDUCT

In this class of cases preliminary labor is required before the accused person is liable to be arraigned and tried, and it should be averred in the complaint that such preliminary labor has been performed, for without such averment there is nothing to show that the person is liable to be tried. The following form may be used:

## FORM No. III

*To A. B., Preacher in Charge of .... Circuit or Station:*

DEAR BROTHER: Inasmuch as C. D., a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, indulged sinful tempers, and was afterward reprov'd, as the Discipline provides; yet the said C. D. was guilty of a second transgression, and he was again reprov'd as the Discipline provides; yet, notwithstanding these repeated reproofs, the said C. D. continues impenitent and still persists in indulging sinful tempers, thereby bringing reproach upon the Church; therefore the undersigned complains to you of the conduct of the said C. D., and charges him as follows:

## CHARGE: INDULGING SINFUL TEMPERS

*Specification.* The said C. D., on the .... day of ...., 19...., at ...., and at other times and places, namely

(*here specify times and places*), did on three several occasions become angry and indulged in sinful tempers, in violation of the Rules of the Discipline.

[Signed] M. N.

#### FORM No. IV

*To A. B., Preacher in Charge of . . . . Circuit or Station:*

DEAR BROTHER: Forasmuch as C. D., on the . . . . day of . . . ., 19. . . . at . . . ., became angry and indulged sinful tempers, in violation of the Rules of the Discipline, and, though reproved therefor after the manner prescribed in the Discipline, he made no acknowledgment of the fault, and showed no proper humiliation, and he still continues impenitent; therefore the undersigned complains to you of the conduct of C. D., and hereby charges him as follows:

#### CHARGE: INDULGING SINFUL TEMPERS

*Specification.* C. D., on the . . . . day of . . . ., at . . . ., became angry and indulged in sinful tempers, in violation of the Rules of the Discipline; and, notwithstanding he has been reproved on account thereof, as the Discipline provides, he has made no acknowledgment of the fault, and has shown no proper humiliation, but continues impenitent, in violation of the Rules of the Discipline.

[Signed] M. N.

### § 4. NEGLECT OF THE MEANS OF GRACE

#### FORM No. V

*To A. B., Preacher in Charge of . . . . Circuit or Station:*

DEAR BROTHER: Inasmuch as C. D., a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, had for a long time neglected public worship, and having so neglected was visited by the Preacher, who explained to him the consequences should he continue such neglect; and yet, notwithstanding such visit and explanation, he does not amend, but continues to neglect public worship, therefore the undersigned complains to you of the conduct of C. D., and hereby charges him as follows:

## CHARGE: HABITUAL NEGLECT OF PUBLIC WORSHIP

*Specification.* The said C. D., unmindful of his duty, and in violation of the Rules of the Discipline, does habitually neglect public worship. [Signed] M. N.

NOTE.—It is sufficient to charge the offense by its generic name, and under such charge the complaint may set forth in specifications as many instances of the offense as it may seem proper to insert, provided, always, the specification must sustain the charge. In preparing the charges and specifications care should be taken in setting out the offense so to describe it in each specification as that it shall embody the essential elements of the offense, that the accused may be apprised more certainly of the nature of the charge upon which he is to be arraigned and tried.

## CHAPTER VIII

## COURSES OF STUDY

## I. In General

¶ 623, § 1. The General Conference earnestly recommends to all candidates for the Ministry of our Church that they complete a full collegiate course of study, and, if possible, a course in one of our Theological Schools, before applying for admission to an Annual Conference.

§ 2. No candidate shall be admitted to an Annual Conference on trial until he shall have completed a course of study equivalent to the University Senate requirements for admission to college, except under special conditions and then only after, at least, three years' successful Ministerial service under a District Superintendent, and only by two-thirds vote of the Annual Conference.

§ 3. The Annual Conference cannot excuse a preacher on trial from the legally prescribed Conference course of study or admit him into full membership without satisfactory examination upon such course of study.

§ 4. When a Preacher in full connection fails to be advanced in his work in the Conference Course of study for a given year, said year shall not be counted as a year of effective service unless he is in attendance upon a

standard school or is excused by a two-thirds vote of his Conference upon the recommendation of the Board of Examiners.

## II. Certificates

¶ 624, § 1. Certificates from our regular Theological Seminaries and other educational agencies approved by our University Senate may be accepted by the Conferences: provided, (1) that each certificate shall distinctly show that the student has been a regular attendant on the classroom instruction in the specified book; and (2) that he has passed a thorough examination in the book, gaining a standing equivalent to that fixed in ¶ 625, § 4, it being understood that the Annual Conference shall examine all candidates in regard to their personal attitude toward the Doctrine and Discipline of the Church.

§ 2. Any Conference also, at its discretion, may accept similar certificates from the institutions above described, indicating like proficiency in any particular study, secured by the use of a different book or by lectures fully equivalent to the corresponding book in our Course of Study.

§ 3. Similar certificates in studies not biblical or theological may be accepted from other than Methodist Colleges, if of equal grade with those approved by our University Senate, and in American history from academies or seminaries either approved by our University Senate, or of equal grade with those thus approved.

§ 4. Graduates of college, who are also graduates of one of our regular theological seminaries, shall be exempted from examination on the Conference Course of Studies, except on the Discipline.

§ 5. A certificate testifying that the candidate has completed satisfactorily at least two years of college work in any college of equal grade with those approved by our University Senate may be accepted in place of an examination in "the English language."

§ 6. All certificates shall state the time when the studies were pursued.

§ 7. A certificate for the purpose of recording the annual markings in the required studies for the entire course shall be issued to persons licensed to preach or received on trial.

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### III. Method of Conducting Conference Examinations

¶ 625, § 1. In each Annual Conference a Board of Examiners shall be appointed by the presiding Bishop, consisting of not less than eight nor more than twenty-four members, care being taken to select men with special qualifications for the work, to which shall be referred all Preachers, both traveling and local, pursuing the Course of Study with a view to ordination or Conference membership. This Board shall be continued for a term of four years, subject to reappointment. Vacancies shall be filled by the Bishop at each session of the Annual Conference.

§ 2. This Board shall organize by electing one of its members Chairman and another Registrar, the latter to keep a permanent record of the standing of the students, and report to the Conference when required. This record shall include the credits allowed students for work done in Theological Seminaries and Colleges described in ¶ 624.

§ 3. The Chairman shall assign to each Examiner the books or subjects in which he is to give instruction by correspondence and final examination. Vacancies occurring in the Board of Examiners during the year may be filled by the Chairman until the ensuing Annual Conference.

§ 4. Examinations shall be in writing, and all work shall be graded on the scale of 100. All "required written work" indicated in the "Directions and Helps" shall be marked on the same scale. The final mark in a subject where there are both examinations and required written

work shall be determined by averaging the marks on these two. The minimum passing mark in any subject shall be 70.

§ 5. The Board of Examiners, under authorization of the Annual Conference, may appoint time and place for examinations between Conference sessions, and may require attendance of undergraduates at the same. The permanent Commission on the Conference Courses of Study, or any Conference or group of Conferences, may establish an institute or institutes for the further training of undergraduates and the Annual Conference may require their attendance at its sessions. Likewise it may require undergraduates to carry on the work of the Course of Study by correspondence as facilities for the same may be provided by the Commission.

§ 6. The Board of Examiners shall convene at the seat and time of the Annual Conference, the day before the session opens, to review and complete the work of the year and to arrange for the work of the year to come. The provision for mid-year examinations shall not deprive any candidate for admission on trial from being examined at the seat and time of the Annual Conference.

§ 7. Local Preachers who are supplies and who are giving their full time to Pastoral work under the District Superintendents shall be required to take the Local Preachers' Course of Study year by year, under the Annual Conference Board of Examiners, this rule to apply to all men under forty years of age and likewise to all Local Preachers who shall be newly employed beginning with the fall of 1920.

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## FOR THE MINISTRY

### ENGLISH COURSES

#### ¶ 626. Traveling Preachers

§ 1. DIRECTIONS FOR STUDENTS AND EXAMINERS  
Special attention is called to the "Directions and

Helps" as listed in the following courses. These consist of leaflets and pamphlets giving the student directions for his work and helps for his study. They indicate also the work to be done in the regular subjects of the year and in the "Collateral Reading and Study." The special tasks assigned in them are a part of the required course. They are to be ordered from the Book Concern.

A pamphlet containing suggestions and directions for Conference Boards of Examiners will be furnished free to each examiner, together with that part of the "Directions and Helps" which pertains to the subjects assigned to him. These will be furnished through the Conference Registrars, who are asked to report the names and addresses of examiners, and the subjects assigned to each on the basis of the new course.

Wherever it is at all possible, the Annual Conference is urged to make provision through its Board of Examiners for a midyear institute, at which examinations may be held, instruction given to the men in the course of study, and lectures and addresses offered for all preachers.

Examinations will be upon the courses noted below until such time as the Commission on Courses of Study constituted by action of the General Conference of 1920 shall have been appointed and the courses approved by the Board of Bishops. Due notice as to these new courses and the time when they will become effective will be given through the Church papers and to the Registrars.

## § 2. EXAMINATION FOR ADMISSION ON TRIAL

### 1. The English Language:

(a) The Art of Writing English.—*Brown and Barnes.*

(b) All papers submitted by the candidate shall be examined and marked with reference to the use of English.

### 2. American History.—*James and Sanford.*

### 3. Doctrines and Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with special Reference to the Twenty-

five Articles. [For a good commentary on these, see Wheeler, *Twenty-five Articles of Religion of the Methodist Episcopal Church.*]

4. Life of John Wesley.—*Winchester.*

5. Plain Account of Christian Perfection.—*Wesley.*  
The candidate shall be prepared to write a paper of not less than five hundred words giving a summary of the contents.

6. The candidate shall be prepared to write a paper of not less than one thousand words upon one of the following subjects, using only the materials found in the Bible: The Life of Moses, the Life of David, the Life of Jesus as recorded in Mark, the Life of Paul as given in Acts. The subject to be written upon shall be assigned at the time of the examination.

7. A written sermon.

8. Directions and Helps for the Examination for Admission (see under § 1).

### § 3. COURSE OF STUDY FOR FIRST YEAR

1. New Testament History.—*Rall.*

2. Human Behavior.—*Colvin and Bagley.*

3. The Making of the Sermon.—*Pattison.*

4. How to Study and Teaching How to Study.—*McMurry.*

5. Directions and Helps for the First Year  
(see under § 1).

#### Collateral Reading and Study:

1. The Church School.—*Athearn.*

2. Public Worship.—*Hoyt.*

3. Individual Work for Individuals.—*Trumbull.*

4. The Pastor-Preacher.—*Quayle.*

5. Winning the Fight Against Drink.—*Eaton.*

6. The Life of the Spirit in the Modern English Poets.  
—*Scudder.*

7. Francis Asbury.—*Tipple.*

8. The Methodist Review.

## § 4. COURSE OF STUDY FOR SECOND YEAR

1. (a) Dictionary of the Bible (1 Vol. Edition).—*Hastings*.  
(See "Directions and Helps" for assignment of work.)  
(b) The Bible in the Making.—*Smyth*.  
(c) How We Got Our Bible.—*Smyth*.
2. A Short History of the Christian Church.—*Moncrief*.
3. (a) The Pupil and the Teacher.—*Weigle*.  
(b) The Graded Sunday School in Principle and Practice.—*Meyer*.
4. The Way to Win.—*Fisher*.
5. Directions and Helps for the Second Year  
(see under § 1).

## Collateral Reading and Study:

1. The Christian View of the Old Testament.—*Eiselen*.
2. Education in Religion and Morals.—*Coe*.
3. The Preacher, His Life and Work.—*Jowett*.
4. Letters on Evangelism.—*Hughes*.
5. Solving the Country Church Problem.—*Bricker*.
6. History of Methodism (Vol. I).—*Stevens*.
7. Martin Luther, the Man and His Work.—*McGiffert*.
8. The Methodist Review.

## § 5. COURSE OF STUDY FOR THIRD YEAR

1. Beacon Lights of Prophecy.—*Knudson*.
2. Foundations of Christian Belief.—*Strickland*.
3. (a) The Social Problem.—*Ellwood*.  
(b) Social Institutions and Ideals of the Bible.  
—*Soares*.
4. Introduction to the Study of Comparative Religion  
—*Jevons*.
5. Directions and Helps for the Third Year  
(see under § 1).

## Collateral Reading and Study:

1. Studies in Christianity.—*Bowne*.
2. The Fact of Christ.—*Simpson*.

3. Christianity and the Social Crisis.—*Rauschenbusch*.
4. Social Evangelism.—*Ward*.
5. The Community Survey in Relation to Church Efficiency.—*Carroll*.
6. History of Methodism (Vol. II).—*Stevens*.
7. Life of Phillips Brooks (briefer edition).—*Allen*.
8. The Methodist Review.

#### § 6. COURSE OF STUDY FOR FOURTH YEAR

1. Paul and His Epistles.—*Hayes*.
2. System of Christian Doctrine.—*Sheldon*. (Except Part I and Appendix.)
3. Everyday Ethics.—*Cabot*.
4. (a) The New Home Missions.—*Douglas*.  
(b) Social Aspects of Foreign Missions.—*Faunce*.
5. Directions and Helps for the Fourth Year  
(see under § 1).

#### Collateral Reading and Study:

1. Historical Geography of the Holy Land.—*Smith*.
2. The Book of Isaiah (Vol. I). Expositor's Bible.  
—*Smith*.
3. Outline of Christian Theology.—*Clarke*.
4. The Call of the World.—*Doughty*.
5. The Church a Community Force.—*Tippy*.
6. The Minister as Shepherd.—*Jefferson*.
7. History of Methodism (Vol. III).—*Stevens*.
8. The Methodist Review.

### ¶ 627. License to Preach

Candidates for License to Preach are to be examined in the common branches of an English education, and on their general knowledge of the Bible, and of the Doctrines and Usages of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

NOTE.—In the case of Local Preachers who are candidates for the Traveling Ministry, examinations may be suspended while they are pursuing regular Courses of Study in our Theological Seminaries or in Universities or Colleges approved by the University Senate, until they shall become candidates for Deacons' or Elders' orders.

¶ 628. Local Preachers

§ 1. FIRST YEAR

1. Life of Christ.—*Stalker*.
2. One Thousand Questions on Methodism.—*Wheeler*.

To be read :

1. The Making of the Bible.—*Vernon*.
2. Religious Education in the Home.—*Folsom*.
3. Tongue of Fire.—*Arthur*.

§ 2. SECOND YEAR

1. Life of St. Paul.—*Stalker*.
2. The Church School.—*Athearn*.

To be read :

1. John Wesley, the Methodist.
2. Everyday Evangelism.—*Leete*.
3. Variety in the Prayer Meeting.—*Ward*.

§ 3. THIRD YEAR

1. Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church.
2. Landmarks of Church History.—*Cowan*.

To be read :

1. Prophecy and the Prophets.—*Eiselen*.
2. The Fact of Christ.—*Simpson*.
3. The Meaning of Prayer.—*Fosdick*.

§ 4. FOURTH YEAR

1. The Work of Preaching.—*Hoyt*.
2. The Social Creed of the Churches.—*Ward*.

To be read :

1. The Call of the World.—*Doughty*.
2. Laymen in Action.—*Quayle*.
3. Francis Asbury.—*Tipple*.

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¶ 629. Local Preachers Who Are Candidates for Orders

§ 1. DEACONS' ORDERS

Local Preachers who are Candidates for Deacons'

## ¶ 630 COURSES OF STUDY—CLASS LEADERS

Orders must present satisfactory evidence that they have completed the four years' course of study, and must pass a satisfactory examination on the following course at the Annual Conference:

1. Studies in Christianity.—*Bowne*.
2. The Christian View of the Old Testament.—*Eiselen*.
3. A Compendious History of American Methodism.—*Stevens*.
4. The Way to Win.—*Fisher*.
5. Social Solutions.—*Hall*.

### § 2. ELDERS' ORDERS

Local Deacons who are Candidates for Elders' Orders must pass a satisfactory examination at the Annual Conference on the following course:

1. Paul and His Epistles.—*Hayes*.
2. The Person and Place of Christ.—*Forsyth*.
3. The Preacher, His Life and Work.—*Jowett*.
4. Everyday Ethics.—*Cabot*.
5. The Rural Church Movement.—*Earp*.

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## ¶ 630. Class or Unit Leaders

See ¶ 64

1. Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church.
2. The Drill Master of Methodism.—*Goodell*.
3. The Class Meeting.—*FitzGerald*.
4. The Bible and Life.—*Hughes*.
5. Individual Work for Individuals.—*Trumbull*.
6. John Wesley, the Methodist.
7. The Place of Prayer in the Christian Religion.—*Campbell*.
8. How to Study the Bible.—*Clifford and Moule*.
9. Religious Education in the Home.—*Folsom*.
10. The Making of the Bible.—*Vernon*.
11. A Compendious History of American Methodism.—*Stevens*.
12. Variety in the Prayer Meeting.—*Ward*.

13. Doctrinal Aspects of Christian Experience.—*Merrill.*
14. Missions Versus Militarism.—*Stevenson.*
15. Laymen in Action.—*Quayle.*

## GERMAN COURSES

### ¶ 631. Reiseprediger

#### § 1. ZULASSUNG AUF PROBE

1. Der grössere Katechismus der Bischöflichen Methodisten Kirche.—*Nast.*
2. Geschichte des Methodismus.—*Kriege.*
3. Kirchenordnung, (I-IV Teil.)
4. Lehrbuch der Heiligen Geschichte.—*Kurtz.*
5. Ein Aufsatz, in welchem der Kandidat einen Bericht über seinen Bildungsgang, seine Bekehrung und seine Berufung zum Predigtamt giebt.

Zum Lesen :<sup>1</sup>

- a. Deutsche Sprach und Stillehre.—*Weise.*<sup>2</sup>
- b. Wesleys Predigten. (Deutsche Ausgabe, I Teil, 33 Predigten.)
- c. Die Christliche Erfahrung.—*Merrill.*
- d. Die religiös-sittliche Erziehung der Jugend.—*Hertzer.*

#### § 2. ERSTES JAHR

1. System der Christlichen Lehre.—*Schneider.*<sup>3</sup> (§§ 1-6, 10-29.)
2. Einleitung in die Heilige Schrift.—*Weber.* (§§ 1-29.)
3. Kirchengeschichte.—*Appel.* (I Teil.)
4. Homiletik.—*Burt.*
5. Kirchenordnung, (V-IX Teil.)
6. Schriftliche Arbeit.<sup>4</sup>

Zum Lesen :

- a. Unsere Muttersprache.—*Weise.*
- b. Weltgeschichte der Neuzeit.—*Schäfer.*<sup>5</sup> (I Teil.)

c. Wesleys Predigten. (II Teil, 35 Predigten.)

d. Geschichte des Methodismus. (Neue Bremer Ausgabe.)

### § 3. ZWEITES JAHR

1. System der Christlichen Lehre.—*Schneider*. (§§ 30-64.)

2. Einleitung in die Heilige Schrift.—*Weber*. (§§ 30-53 und Anhang.)

3. Kirchengeschichte.—*Appel*. (II Teil.)

<sup>1</sup>Die Kandidaten sollen schriftlich bezeugen, dass sie die betreffenden Bücher gelesen haben und sollen einen Auszug aus einem von den Examinatoren bezeichneten Kapitel einhändigen.

<sup>2</sup>In den deutschen Konferenzen in Amerika wird hierüber ein Examen verlangt.

<sup>3</sup>In den deutschen Konferenzen in Europa kann die Glaubenslehre von Sulzberger gebraucht werden.

<sup>4</sup>Das Thema der schriftlichen Arbeit Predigt oder Abhandlung ist jedesmal von der Prüfungskommission festzusetzen.

<sup>5</sup>In der Schweizer Konferenz kann die Allgemeine Geschichte von Pechsli gebraucht werden.

4. Das Christliche Heilsleben.—*Paulus*. (I Teil.)

5. Biblische Altertümer.—*Kinzler*. (§§ 1-114.)

6. Schriftliche Arbeit.

Zum Lesen :

a. Weltgeschichte der Neuzeit.—*Schäfer*. (II Teil.)

b. Kennst du das Land?—*Schneller*.

c. Jugendlehre.—*Förster*.

d. Die Wunder des Unglaubens.—*Ballard-König*.

### § 4. DRITTES JAHR

1. System der Christlichen Lehre.—*Schneider*. (§§ 65-101.)

2. Einleitung in die Heilige Schrift.—*Weber*. (Neues Testament.)

3. Kirchengeschichte.—*Appel*. (III, I Teil.)

4. Das Christliche Heilsleben.—*Paulus*. (II Teil.)

5. Biblische Altertümer.—*Kinzler*. (§§ 115-142.)

6. Schriftliche Arbeit.

Zum Lesen :<sup>1</sup>

a. Deutsche Literaturgeschichte.—*K. Stork*.

- b. Der Glaube im Neuen Testament.—*Schlatter*.
- c. Geschichte der Protestantischen Missionen.—*Warneck*.
- d. Centralfragen der Dogmatik.—*Ihmels*.
- e. Philosophische Weltanschauungen and ihre Hauptvertreter.—*Heussner*.

### § 5. VIERTES JAHR

- 1. System der Christlichen Lehre.—*Schneider*. (§§ 102-end.)
- 2. Kirchengeschichte.—*Appel*. (III, II Teil.)
- 3. Neutestamentliche Theologie.—*Van Oosterzee*.
- 4. Allgemeine Pädagogik.—*Nieden*.
- 5. Schriftliche Arbeit.

Zum Lesen :<sup>1</sup>

- a. Handbuch der Religionsgeschichte.—*Wurm*.
- b. Natur und Bibel.—*Reim*.
- c. Christentum und Klassenkampf.—*Förster*.
- d. Persönlichkeit Christliche Lebensphilosophie.—*Pfennigsdorf*.

## ¶ 632. Lokalprediger

### § 1. BEVOLLMAECHTIGUNG ZUM PREDIGEN

Die Kandidaten für Bevollmächtigung zum Predigen sollen eine Prüfung bestehen über ihre Bibelkenntnis und Bekanntschaft mit den Lehren und Gebräuchen der Bischöflichen Methodisten Kirche.

### § 2 ERSTES JAHR

- 1. Lehrbuch der Heiligen Geschichte.—*Kurtz*. (Altes Testament.)

<sup>1</sup>Als Ersatz für ein theologisches Buch gilt das Lesen einer theologischen Zeitschrift. Methodist Review oder Der Geisteskampf der Gegenwart.

2. Der grössere Katechismus der Bischöflichen Methodisten Kirche.—*Nast*.

3. Die Kirchenordnung.

Zum Lesen :

1. Die Christliche Erfahrung auf den verschiedenen Stufen des Gnadenwerks.—*Merrill*.

2. Wesley und seine Mitarbeiter.—*Nast*.

### § 3. ZWEITES JAHR

1. Lehrbuch der Heiligen Geschichte —*Kurtz*. (Neues Testament.)

2. Wesleys Predigten. (Deutsche Ausgabe, I Teil. 33 Predigten.)

3. Christliche Kirchengeschichte.—*Calwer Verein*.

Zum Lesen :

1. Geschichte Deutschlands; oder der Vereinigten Staaten; von irgend einem anerkannten Verfasser.

### § 4. DRITTES JAHR

1. Die feurige Zunge.—*Arthur*.

2. Wesleys Predigten. (II Teil, 35 Predigten.)

3. Christliche Vollkommenheit.—*Wesley*.

4. Glaubensartikel und Hauptlehren.—*Sulzberger*.

Zum Lesen :

1. Das Christliche Heilsleben.—*Paulus*.

2. Das Leben Jesu.—*Weitbrecht*.

### § 5. VIERTES JAHR

Wiederholung des vorhergehenden dreijährigen Kursus.

Zum Lesen :

1. Geschichte der Bischöflichen Methodisten Kirche, 2 Bände.—*Stevens*.

2. Die Hauptlehren des Methodismus.—*Paulus*.

3. Bibliche Altertümer —*Kinzler*.

**NORWEGIAN AND DANISH COURSES**

**FOR CONFERENCES IN THE UNITED STATES**

**¶ 633. Studiekursus for Norsk-danske Methodist  
praedikanter i Amerika**

**§ 1. OPTAGELSE PAA PRÖVE**

1. Grammatik.—*Hofgaard.*
2. Geografi.—*Olaf Skulestad.*
3. Norges og Nordens Historie.—*Jens Raabe.*
4. Retskrivningsregler.—*Aars og Hofgaard.*
5. Norsk Stil.—*Tönnesen.*
6. Buehler's English Grammar. (Last edition, pages 1-94.)

7. Compendium of American Methodism.—*Abel Stevens.*  
Til Läsning:

1. Methodistkirkens Disciplin. (Sidste Udgave.)
2. En skreven Oversigt over Levisons Menneskelegemet.

**§ 2. FÖRSTE AAR**

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield.* (Sider 1-146.)
2. Verdenshistorie.—*Paulsen.* (1ste Trediedel.)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fisher.* (Sider 1-162.)
4. The Work of the Preacher.—*Jowett.*
5. Buehler's English Grammar. (Pages 94-295.)
6. Methodistkirkens Disciplin. (Sidste Udgave.)
7. Kristelig Erfaring.—*Merrill.*
8. Skreven Prädiken om Forsoningen.

Til Läsning:

1. The Old Testament Problem.—*Orr.*
2. The Teaching of Citizenship.—*Hughes.*

**§ 3. ANDET AAR**

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield.* (Sider 147-404.)
2. Preparation and Delivery of Sermons.—*Broadus.*

## ¶ 633 COURSES OF STUDY—NORWEGIAN-DANISH

3. Verdenshistorie.—*Paulsen*. (2den Trediedel.)
4. Logik.—*Jevon*.
5. Kirkehistorie.—*Fisher*. (Sider 163-286.)
6. Själe og Tänkeläre.—*Nielsen*.
7. Etik.—*Martensen*. (Sider 1-75.)
8. Leading Facts of American History.—*Montgomery*.
9. Skreven Prädiken om Retfærdiggjørelsen.

Til Läsning :

1. History of Methodism.—*Stevens*. (1st Vol.)
2. Exercises in English Form and Diction.—*Fansler and Fansler*.

### § 4. TREDIE AAR

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield*. (Sider 405-645.)
2. Verdenshistorie.—*Paulsen*. (3die Trediedel.)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fisher*. (Sider 287-423.)
4. Literaturhistorie.—*Broch og Seip*. (7de Udgave.)
5. Psychology (Briefer Course).—*James*. (1st Half.)
6. Etik.—*Martensen*. (Sider 76-300.)
7. Socialism and the Social Movement.—*Sombart*.
8. Organizing and Building of the Sunday School.—*Hurlbut*.
9. Skreven Prädiken om Gjenfödelser.

Til Läsning :

1. Ildtungen.—*Arthur*.
2. History of Methodism.—*Stevens*. (2nd Vol.)

### § 5. FJERDE AAR

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield*. (Sider 646-781.)
2. Lectures on Preaching.—*Simpson*.
3. Psychology (Briefer Course).—*James*. (2nd Half.)
4. Etik.—*Martensen*. (Sider 301-590.)
5. Den Hellige Skrifts Historie.—*Olafsen*.
6. The Church School.—*Athorn*.
7. Kirkehistorie.—*Fisher*. (Sider 423-664.)
8. Skreven Prädiken om Helliggjörelsen.

Til Läsning :

1. Evangeliets Seiersgang.—*Ussing*.
2. History of Methodism.—*Stevens*. (3rd Vol.)

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¶ 634. For Lokaldiakoners Ordination

1. Kristelig Erfaring.—*Merrill*.
2. Kirkehistorie (Ledetraad).—*Fr. Nielsen*.
3. Norges og Nordens Historie.—*Jens Raabe*.
4. Grammatik.—*Hofgaard*.
5. Digest of Methodist Law.—*Merrill and Downey*.
6. Lærebog i Bibelhistorie.—*Asperheim*.
7. Skreven Prædiken om Daaben.

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¶ 635. For Lokalældstes Ordination

1. Presten Hjemme og i Kirken.—*Spurgeon*.
2. Verdenshistorie.—*Paulsen*.
3. Literaturhistorie.—*Broch og Seip*.
4. Lectures on Preaching.—*Simpson*.
5. Skreven Prædiken om Nadværen.

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FOR THE NORWAY CONFERENCE

¶ 636. For Lokalældstes Ordination  
Konference

§ 1. OPTAGELSE PAA PRÖVE

1. Grammatik.—*Hofgaard Alls*.
2. Geografi.—*Norris*. (For Amts og Folkeskoler.)
3. Norges Historie.—*Petersen*.
4. Nordens Historie.—*Eriksen*.
5. Methodismens Historie.—*Smith and Mahood*.
6. Sammendrag af Theologien.—*Binney*.

§ 2. I AARSKLASSE

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield*. (Side 1-146.)
2. Verdenshistorie.—*Rader*. (Oldtiden.)

## ¶ 637 COURSES OF STUDY—NORWEGIAN-DANISH

3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fr. Nielsen*. (Nullematore Oldtiden.)
4. Pastoraltheologi.—*Vinet*.
5. Bibelnöglén.—*Jensen-Fogh*.
6. Methodistkirkens Disciplin. (I-V Del.)
7. Kristelig Erfaring.—*Merrill*.

### § 3. II AARSKLASSE

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield*. (Side 147-404.)
2. Homiletik.—*Burt*.
3. Verdenshistorie.—*Rader*. (Middelalderen.)
4. Kirkehistorie.—*Fr. Nielsen*. (Middelalderen.)
5. Logik.—*Jevons*.
6. Ethik.—*Martensen*. (Den alm Del.)
7. Methodistkirkens Disciplin. (VI-VII Del.)
8. Skreven Prædiken om Retfærdiggjørelsen.

### § 4. III AARSKLASSE

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield*. (Side 405-645.)
2. Verdenshistorie.—*Rader*. (Den nyere Tid.)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fr. Nielsen*. (Den nyere Tid.)
4. Literaturhistorie.—*Bröck og Seip*.
5. Sjæle og Tænkelse.—*Fr. Nielsen*. (Side 1-63.)
6. Ethik.—*Martensen*. (Den Specielle Del, I Bind.)
7. Pastoren Hjemme og i Kirken.—*Spurgeon*.
8. Skreven Prædiken om Helliggjørelsen.

### § 5. IV AARSKLASSE

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield*. (Side 645-780.)
2. Lectures on Preaching.—*Simpson*.
3. Sjæle og Tænkelse.—*Fr. Nielsen*. (Side 64-96.)
4. Ethik.—*Martensen*. (Den Specielle Del, II Bind.)
5. Modern Sunday School.—*Vincent*.
6. Evangeliets Seiersgang.—*Ussing*.
7. Skreven Afhandling om Inspirationen.

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### ¶ 637. For Lokalprædikanter

For at blive bemyndiget som lokalprædikant kræves

almindelig god folkeskolekundskål foruden eksamen "i læren og disciplinen."

§ 1. I AARSKLASSE

1. Theologi.—*Binney*. (Förste Halvdel.)
2. Methodistkirkens Disciplin. (I-III Del.)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fr. Nielsen*. (Oldtiden.)

§ 2. II AARSKLASSE

1. Theologi.—*Binney*. (Anden Halvdel.)
2. Methodistkirkens Disciplin. (IV-VI Del.)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fr. Nielsen*. (Middelalderen.)
4. Skreven Afhandling om Daaben.

§ 3. III AARSKLASSE

1. Bibelnöglén.—*Jensen-Fogh*. (Förste Halvdel.)
2. Methodistkirkens Disciplin. (VII-VIII Del.)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fr. Nielsen*. (Den nyere Tid.)

§ 4. IV AARSKLASSE

1. Bibelnöglén.—*Jenson-Fogh*. (Anden Halvdel.)
2. Methodismens Historie.—*Smith and Mahood*.
3. Kristelig Erfaring.—*Merrill*.
4. Skreven Afhandling om Naadens orden.

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¶ 638. For Diakonordination

1. Förste og andet Aars Studie.
2. Disciplinens Haandbog.—*Merrill*.
3. Sjæle og Tænkelære.—*Fr. Nielsen*. (Side 1-63.)

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¶ 639. For Äldsteordination

1. Tredie og fjerde Aars Studie.
2. Helligjörelsen.—*Fletcher*.
3. Sjæle og Tænkelære.—*Fr. Nielsen*. (Side 64-96.)

¶ 640. DANISH COURSES

Eksamensraadet vil, livor det ikke er gjort. anvise hvilke Böger, og hvor stort et Afsnit i de enkelte Böger, Kandidaterne skal lære.—Der gives et kort skriftligt Resumè of de til Læsning anviste Böger.

¶ 641. Reiseprædikanter

§ 1. OPTAGELSE PAA PRÖVE

1. Dansk Sproglære.
2. Geografi.
3. Samfundslære.
4. Verdenshistorie.
5. Kirkehistorie.
6. Metodismen.—*Gaarde en fl.*
7. Sammendrag af Teologien.—*Binney.*
8. Katekisme.
9. Disciplin. (Nyeste Udgave.)
10. Skreven Selvbiografi.

Læsning:

1. Jesu Liv.—*Farrar.*
2. Metodistkirken: Danmark.—*Gaarde.*

§ 2. I AARSKLASSE

1. Teologi.—*Wakefield.* (S. 1-146.)
2. Bibelsk Arkæologi. (Bibelhaandbogen. *H. P. Hansen.*)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Bergmann.* (I.)
4. Pastoralteologi.—*Vinet.*
5. Indledning til det gl. Test. (Bibelhaandbogen. *H. P. Hansen.*)
6. Skreven Prædiken, hvortil opgives Tekst of Eksamensraadet.

Læsning:

1. Wesley's Prædikener.
2. Helliggörelsen.—*Fletcher.*
3. Verdens Evangelisation.—*Mott.*
4. Forkyndelsen.—*J. J. Jansen.*

§ 3. II AARSKLASSE

1. Teologi.—*Wakefield*. (S. 147-404.)
2. Kirkehistorie.—*Bergmann*. (II.)
3. Indledning til det nye Test. (Bibelhaandbogen. *H. P. Hansen*.)
4. Sjæle og Tænkelse.—*Nielsen*.
5. Literaturhistorie.
6. Skreven Prædiken, hvortil Tekst opgives of Eksamensraadet.

Læsning:

1. Apostlen Paulus.—*Farrar*. (I.)
2. Hvad er Kristendom?—*L. C. Petersen*.
3. Sociale Sporgsmaal.—*Schach*.

§ 4. III AARSKLASSE

1. Teologi.—*Wakefield*. (S. 405-645.)
2. Etik.—*Martensen*. (S. 1-300.)
3. Logik.—*Jevons*.
4. Lectures on Preaching.—*Simpson*.
5. Eksegese efter Wesley's Notes on the New Testament. (Mundtlig.)
6. Skreven Prædiken, hvortil Tekst opgives of Eksamensraadet.

Læsning.

1. Apostlen Paulus.—*Farrar*. (II.)
2. Evangeliets Sejrsang.—*Ussing*.
3. Præsten hjemme og i Kirken.—*Spurgeon*.

§ 5. IV AARSKLASSE

1. Teologi.—*Wakefield*. (S. 646-780.)
2. Etik.—*Martensen*. (S. 301-590.)
3. History of American Methodism.—*Stevens*.
4. Eksegese efter Godet: Johannes Evangelium. (Mundtlig.)
5. Skreven Prædiken. Emnet opgives of Eksamensraadet.

Læsning:

## ¶ 642 COURSES OF STUDY—SWEDISH

1. Den Sociale Udvikling.—*Kidd.*
2. Pastoral Evangelism.—*Goodell.*
3. Haanbog for Søndagskole-Arbeide.—*With.*

### ¶ 642. Lokalprædikanter

#### § 1. LOKALPRÆDIKANTBEMYNDIGELSE

1. Katekisme.
2. Sammendrag of Teologien.—*Binney.*
3. Hvad er Kristendom?—*L. C. Petersen.*
4. Haandsrækning til en Lokalprædikant.
5. Metodismen.—*Gaarde en. fl.*
6. Disciplinen I-VI Del.—Nyeste Udgave.

Læsning:

1. Metodistkirken: Danmark.—*Gaarde.*
2. KURSUS FOR LOKAL-DIAKONERS OG LOKAL-ÖLDSTE.

Lokalprædikanter der ønsker Ordination, vil faa anvist Studieplan samt Böger af Eksamensraadet.

## SWEDISH COURSES

### FOR CONFERENCES IN THE UNITED STATES

### ¶ 643. Resepredikanter

#### § 1. INTRÄDE PÅ PROV

1. Katekesen.—*Nast.*
2. M. E. Kyrkans trosbekännelse.—*Sulzberger.*
3. Kyrkoordningen.
4. Svensk språklära. (Kap. I-XI.)—*Beckman.*
5. Geografi.—*Karlson.*
6. Allmän historia.—*Zachrisson.*
7. Biblical Geography and History.—*Kent.*
8. English Grammar.—*Longman.*

Böcker till läsning:

1. Wesleys predikningar. (Första bandet.)
2. The Pastor-Preacher.—*Quayle*.
3. Det muntliga föredragets konst.—*Swahn*.

## § 2. FÖRSTA ÅRET

1. Biblical Dogmatics.—*Terry*. (Part I.)
2. Kyrkohistoria.—*Hammerich*.
3. Life of Wesley.—*Winchester*.
4. Manual of Teacher Training, Part II.—*Barclay*.
5. Svensk språklära. (Kap. XII-XIV.)—*Beckman*.
6. Avhandling: Kristendomen och den sociala frågan.

### Böcker till läsning:

1. Wesleys predikningar. (Andra bandet.)
2. Christianity and the Social Crisis.—*Rauschenbusch*.
3. The Meaning of Prayer.—*Fosdick*. —

## § 3. ANDRA ÅRET

1. Biblical Dogmatics.—*Terry*. (Part II.)
2. Kyrkohistoria.—*Hammerich*. (Del. II.)
3. American History.—*James and Sanford*.
4. The Making of the Sermon.—*Pattison*.
5. The Graded Sunday School in Principle and Practice.—*Meyer*.
6. Avhandling: *Nattvarden*.

### Böcker till läsning:

1. Metodistkyrkaus historia.—*Porter*.
2. Studies in Christianity.—*Bowne*.
3. Pastoral and Personal Evangelism.—*Goodell*.

## § 4. TREDJE ÅRET

1. Biblical Dogmatics.—*Terry*. (Part III.)
2. Beacon Lights of Prophecy.—*Knudson*.
3. Själslivet.—*Almquist*.
4. The Religious Development of the Child.—*Weaver*.
5. Avhandling: Försoningen.

### Böcker till läsning:

1. The Building of the Church.—*Jefferson*.

2. Religionsvetenskapen.—*Tiele*.
3. Vittra skrifter.—*Vikner*.

## § 5. FJÄRDE ÅRET

1. The Christian Faith.—*Curtis*.
  2. Everyday Ethics.—*Cabot*.
  3. The Minister as Shepherd.—*Jefferson*.
  4. The Way to Win.—*Fisher*.
  5. Social Aspects of Missions.—*Faunce*.
  6. Avhandling: Helgelsen.
  7. English Essay: Swedish Methodism in America.
- Böcker till läsning:*

1. St. Paul the Traveler and Roman Citizen.—*Ramsey*.
2. The Bible: Its Origin and Nature.—*Dods*.
3. Jesu liv.—*Farrar*.
4. Jerusalem.—*Lagerlöf*.

## ¶ 644. Lokalpredikanter

För erhållande och förnyande af fullmakt skall lokalpredikanten, årligen examineras, till dess han efter fyra års förlopp stått godkänd examen uti följande ämnen:

1. M. E. Kyrkans katekes.
2. Kyrkoordningen. (Delad på 4 år.)
3. Biblisk historia.
4. Lärobok i bibelkunskap.—*Keiser*.
5. Kyrkohistoria.—*Lögren*. (å Delad på 3 år.)

## ¶ 645. För ordinerings till diakon

1. Katekes.—*Nast*.
2. Anvisning till Bibelkännedom.—*Welanders*.
3. Svensk språklära i sammandrag.—*Sundén*.
4. Afhandling: Försoningen.

## ¶ 646. För ordinerings till Aldste

1. M. E. Kyrkans trosbekännelse.—*Sulzberger*.
2. Öfversikt af de bibliska böckerna.—*Brodén*.

3. Kristlig fullkomlighet.—*Fletcher*.
4. Doctrinal Aspects of Christian Experience.—*Merrill*.
5. Afhandling: Bibelns inspiration.

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## FOR THE SWEDEN CONFERENCE

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### ¶ 647. Resepredikanter

#### § 1. FÖR INTRÄDE PÅ PROV

1. Metodistkyrkans katekes och Metodistkyrkans trosbekännelse med förklaringar.—*A. Sulzberger*.
  2. Kyrkoordningen.
  3. Bibelkännedom.—*P. Welanders och C. E. Benanders*.
  4. Bilder ur kyrkans historia.—*C. Fr. Lundin*.
  5. Metodistkyrkans historia.—*J. Porter*.
  6. Lärobok i fäderneslandets historia i sammandrag.—*Grimberg*.
  7. Allmän historia.—*Pallin*.
  8. Svensk språklära i sammandrag.—*D. A. Sundén*.
  9. Räknebok.—*Larsson, Möller, Lundell*.
  10. Naturkunnighet.—*Berg och Lindén*.
  11. Skolgeografi, 1 kurs.—*Carlsson*.
  12. Muntlig översättning av lättare engelsk täxt.
  13. En skriftligen avfattad teckning av den inträdes-sökandes eget liv.
- Att läsa: Wesleys 53 predikningar.

#### § 2. FÖRSTA ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Den kristna troslära: Inledning.—*A. Sulzberger*.
2. A Popular History of Methodism.—*J. Telford*.
3. The Christian Pastorate.—*J. Kidder*.
4. Recruiting and Organizing the Sunday School.—*Hurlbut*.
5. Det avgörande ögonblicket i den kristna missionens historia.—*Mott*.
6. Novum Testamentum: Lukas Evang.
7. Avhandling om dopet.

Att läsa : Kristlig fullkomlighet.—*J. Fletcher.*

A Plain Account of Christian Perfection.—*J. Wesley.*

### § 3. ANDRA ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Den kristna trosläran.—*A. Sulzberger.* (Del. 1.)
2. Sjäslära.—*William James.*
3. The Preacher and his Sermon.—*Etter.* (Del. 1.)
4. Biblisk fornkunskap.—*Skarstedt.*
5. Lärobok i Pedagogik.—*Sv. Lundqvist.*
6. Novum Testamentum : Apostlag.
7. Avhandling om nattvarden.

Att läsa : A New History of Methodism.—*W. J. Townsend, H. B. Workman, G. Eayrs.* (Del. 1.)

### § 4. TREDJE ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Den kristna trosläran.—*A. Sulzberger.* (Del. 2.)
2. Litteraturhistoria.—*Warburg.*
3. The Preacher and his Sermon.—*Etter.* (Del. 2.)
4. Inledning till religionsvetenskapen.—*C. P. Tiele.* (Del. 1.)
5. Bibelstudiekurs.—*J. Rinman.* (Serie 1-4.)
6. Novum Testamentum : Matt. Evang.
7. Avhandling om försoningen.

Att läsa : A New History of Methodism.—*W. J. Townsend, H. B. Workman, G. Eayrs.* (Del. 2.)

Pastoral and Personal Evangelism.—*Goodell.*

### § 5. FJÄRDE ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Den kristna trosläran.—*A. Sulzberger.* (Del. 3.)
2. Hermeneutik.—*Edgren.*
3. The Preacher and his Sermon.—*Etter.* (Del. 3.)
4. Inledning till religionsvetenskapen.—*C. P. Tiele.* (Del. 2.)
5. Novum Testamentum : Galaterbret.
6. Avhandling om helgelsen.

Att läsa : The Church and the Social Crisis.—*Rauschenbusch.*

Filosofiens historia.—*S. G. Youngert.*

## ¶ 648. Lokalpredikanter

## § 1. FÖRSTA ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Metodistkyrkans katekes.
2. Palestina, det heliga landet.
3. Kyrkoordningen. (Del. 1-2.)

## Läsning:

Wesley och hans samtida.

Wesleys predikningar. (1-sta Bandet.)

Biblisk historia.

Metodistkyrkans historia: Verksamheten i England.—

*J. Porter.*

## § 2. ANDRA ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Metodistkyrkans trosbekännelse.—*A. Sulzberger.*
2. Seder och bruk de i Bibeln omtalade folken.
3. Kyrkoordningen. (Del. 3-4.)

## Läsning:

Wesleys predikningar. (2-dra Bandet.)

Metodistkyrkans historia: Verksamheten i Amerika.—

*J. Porter.*

## § 3. TREDJE ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Läran om frälsning från metodistisk ståndpunkt.—  
*C. A. Stenholm.*
2. Anvisning till Bibelns kännedom.—*P. Welander.*
3. Kyrkoordningen. (Del. 7-9.)

## Läsning:

Kyrkohistoria: Till reformationen.—*N. Lovgren.*

Kristendomens salighetssanningar.—*Luthardt.*

## § 4. FJÄRDE ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Studium av Pauli brev till Romarne.—*A. Clarke.*
2. Repetition av kyrkoordningen.

## Läsning:

Kyrkohistoria: Nyare tiden.—*N. Lovgren.*

Lärobok i världshistorien.—*C. A. Zachrisson.*

## ¶ 649 COURSES OF STUDY—FINNISH

### ¶ 649. For lokaldiakon-examen

1. Metodistkyrkans katekes.
  2. Anvisning till Bibelnkännedom.—*P. Welanders*.
  3. Svensk språklära i sammandrag.—*Sundén*.
  4. Avhandling om försoningen.
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### ¶ 650. For lokalældste-examen

1. Kyrkoordningen.
  2. Metodistkyrkans trosbekännelse.—*A. Sulzberger*.
  3. Biblisk fornkunskap.—*Skarstedt*.
  4. Kristlig fullkomlighet.—*J. Fletcher*.
  5. Avhandling om helgelsen.
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## FINNISH COURSES

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### ¶ 651. Traveling Preachers

Swedish-speaking preachers are permitted to choose corresponding books in Swedish, according to the direction of the Board of Examination.

#### § 1. ADMISSION ON TRIAL

NOTE.—Those who have graduated from one of our seminaries need only to pass an examination in the Discipline and Doctrines of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

1. The Doctrines of Methodist Church.
2. Introduction to the Bible.—*Welanders* or *Waarans*.
3. Discipline of Methodist Episcopal Church.
4. John Wesley.—*McDonald*.
5. History of Finland.—*Schyberkson* or *Forström*.
6. Stylistic.—*Sjöberg* and *Klingberg* or *Rapola*.
7. Elementary English.—*Afzelius* or *Brække*.
8. Written Sermon on Call to Preach.

#### § 2. FIRST YEAR

1. Dogmatics. (Introduction and Part I.)—*Sulzberger*.
2. Introduction to the Holy Scriptures.—*Schlatter*.  
(Old Testament.)

3. Pastoral Theology.—*Kidder*.
  4. Church History. (The Early Church.)—*Lundén or Gummerus*.
  5. General History. (Ancient Times.)—*Estlander*.
  6. The Dissenter Law and Related Statutes.
  7. Etymology of the Mother Tongue.—*Sundén or Jännes*.
  8. Etymology of the English Language.—*Afzelius or Braekke*.
  9. Written Sermon on Conversion.
- To be Read:
1. Wesley's Sermons. (1.)
  2. Bible Studies. (Ancient Times.)—*Godet*.
  3. Church History. (The Early Church.)—*Fabricius or Nissen-Gummerus*.
  4. The Pastor at Home and in Church.—*Spurgeon*.

## § 3. SECOND YEAR

1. Dogmatics. (Part II.)—*Sulzberger*.
  2. Introduction to the Holy Scriptures (New Test.)—*Schlatter*.
  3. Primer in Homiletics.—*Edwards*.
  4. General History. (Mediæval Times.)—*Estlander*.
  5. Church History. (Mediæval Times.)—*Lundén or Gummerus*.
  6. History of Methodism. (a) Methodism in England. (b) Written Essay on John Wesley.—*Hurst*.
  7. English. Translations from the Mother Tongue.—*Afzelius or Braekke*.
  8. The Syntax of the Mother Tongue.—*Sundén or Setälä*.
  9. Written Sermon on the Witness of the Spirit.
- To be Read:
1. Wesley's Sermons, II.
  2. Bible Studies. (New Test.)—*Godet*.
  3. Church History. (Mediæval Times.)—*Fabricius or Nissen-Gummerus*.

¶ 651 COURSES OF STUDY—FINNISH

4. A New Life of Christ: (Part I.)—*F. W. Farrar*, or Christian Evidences.—*Luthardt*.

§ 4. THIRD YEAR

1. Dogmatics. (Part III.)—*Sulzberger*.

2. Exegetical Studies in the Synoptical Gospels.—*Godet*.

3. General History. (Modern Times to the French Revolution.)—*Estlander*.

4. Church History. (Modern Church.)—*Lundén* or *Gummerus*.

5. History of Methodism. (a) Methodism in America. (b) Written Essay on Bishop Asbury.—*Hurst*.

6. Psychological Principles of Education.—*Boæström*, or some other corresponding book in Swedish.

7. Ethics.—*W. Herrmans*.

8. Philosophy.—*Knut Barr*.

9. Written Sermon on Christian Perfection.

To be Read:

1. Church History. (Modern Church.)—*Fabritius* or *Nissen-Gummerus*.

2. Pedagogy.—*E. Martig* or *Soinen*.

3. The Ethics of Jesus.—*E. Grim*.

4. Christian Perfection.—*Fletcher*.

§ 5. FOURTH YEAR

1. Exegetical Studies in the Epistles of Saint Paul.—*Godet*.

2. Biblical Archæology.—*Skarstedt*.

3. General History. (Modern Times from the French Revolution.)—*Estlander*.

4. History of Methodism. (a) Methodist Missions; (b) Written Essay on the Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Hurst*.

5. History of Modern Missions.—*Henry Ussing*.

6. History of Philosophy.—*Wagner* or *W. Jerusalem*.

7. Introduction to Science of Religion.—*C. P. Tiele*.

8. History of Literature of the Mother Tongue.—*R. Steffen or Godenhjelm.*

9. Written Sermon on any Subject.

To be Read:

1. The Gospel of Saint John.—*Godet.*

2. General History of Literature.

## ¶ 652. Local Preachers

### § 1. FIRST YEAR

1. Biblical History.—*Sundvall.*

2. Standard Catechism.

3. History of Methodism. (The Work in England.)—*Porter.*

4. Discipline. (Parts I-III.)

### § 2. SECOND YEAR

1. Bible Introduction.—*Velander or Vaaranen.*

2. History of Methodism. (The Work in America.)—*Porter.*

3. A Short Grammar.—*Lagerblad or Setälä.*

4. Discipline. (Parts IV-VI.)

### § 3. THIRD YEAR

1. Theological Compend.—*Binney.*

2. Wesley's Sermons. (Vol. I.)

3. Pastoral Theology.—*Spurgeon.* (Vol. I, or some other.)

4. Discipline. (Parts VII-IX.)

5. Church History. (Early Church.)—*Vaaranen or Lundén.*

### § 4. FOURTH YEAR

1. Wesley's Sermons. (Vol. II.)

2. Pastoral Theology.—*Spurgeon.* (Vol. II, or some other.)

3. Church History. (Mediæval Church.)—*Vaaranen or Lundén.*

## ¶ 653 COURSES OF STUDY—RUSSIAN

### ¶ 653. Local Deacons

The entire Course for Local Preachers.

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### ¶ 654. Local Elders

1. Church History. (Modern Church.)—*Vaaranen or Lundén.*
2. History of Finland.—*Forström.*
3. General History.—*Palin.*
4. Life of Christ.—*Stalker.*
5. Life of Paul.—*Stalker.*

NOTE.—This course is to be read in four years.

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## RUSSIAN COURSES

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### ¶ 655. Traveling Preachers

#### § 1. ADMISSION ON TRIAL

1. Russian Grammar.—*Bogdanoff.*
2. History of Russia.—*Platonoff.*
3. Geography.—*Kruber-Grigorieff.*
4. Discipline. (Parts I-IV.)
5. Standard Catechism.
6. Life of Wesley.—*Telford.*
7. Written Sermon on the Call to Preach.

To be Read:

1. Sermons. (Vol. I.)—*Wesley.*
2. Life of Christ.—*Farrar.*
3. Handbook for Probationers.—*Burt.*

#### § 2. FIRST YEAR

1. System of Christian Doctrine. (Parts I and II.)—*Schneider.*
2. History of World. (Ancient.)—*Karjaeff.*
3. Bible History. (Part I.)—*Kurtz.*
4. Russian Rhetoric.—*Abramoff.*

5. Homiletics.—*Burt.*
6. Discipline. (Parts V-IX.)
7. Written Sermon on the Atonement.

To be Read :

1. Sermons. (Vol. II.)—*Wesley.*
2. How to Speak in Public.—*Spurgeon.*
3. Science and the Bible.—*Bettex.*

### § 3. SECOND YEAR

1. System of Christian Doctrine. (Parts III and IV.)—*Schneider.*
2. History of World. (Mediæval.)—*Karjaeff.*
3. Bible History. (Part II.)—*Kurtz.*
4. History of Church.—*Kurtz.*
5. History of Russian Literature. (Part I.)—*Nezelenoff.*
6. Logic.—*Chelpanoff.*
7. Written Sermon on Justification by Faith.

To be Read :

1. Wesley's Journal.
2. The Tongue of Fire.—*Arthur.*
3. Decisive Hour of Christian Missions.—*Mott.*

### § 4. THIRD YEAR

1. System of Christian Doctrine. (Part V.)—*Schneider.*
2. History of World. (Modern.)—*Karjaeff.*
3. History of Russian Literature. (Part II.)—*Nezelenoff.*
4. Psychology.—*Nechajeff.*
5. History of Methodism. (Part I.)—*Bulgakoff.*
6. Ethics.—*Paulus.*
7. English or German Grammar.—*Gaspey-Sauer.*
8. Written Sermon on Regeneration or Sanctification.

To be Read :

1. Life of Francis Asbury.—*Mains.*
2. One Thousand Questions on Methodism.—*Wheeler.*
3. Pilgrim's Progress.—*Bunyan.*

¶ 656 COURSES OF STUDY—RUSSIAN

§ 5. FOURTH YEAR

1. System of Christian Doctrine. (Part VI.)—*Schneider*.
2. History of Methodism. (Part II.)—*Bulgakoff*.
3. History of Russian Orthodox Church.—*Smirnoff*.
4. History of Philosophy.—*Paulsen*.
5. Political Economy.—*Eschupoff*.
6. Sociology.—*Kovalevsky*.
7. Grammar of Native Tongue. (If candidate is other than Russian.)
8. Written Sermon on the Sacraments.

To be Read :

1. Apologetics.—*Luthardt*.
2. The Russian Sects.—*Margaritoff*.
3. Europe and Methodism.—*Burt*.

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¶ 656. Local Preachers

§ 1. FIRST YEAR

1. Bible History. (Part I.)—*Kurtz*.
2. Standard Catechism.
3. History of Methodism. (Part I.)—*Bulgakoff*.
4. Discipline. (Parts I-IV.)

§ 2. SECOND YEAR

1. Bible History. (Part II.)—*Kurtz*.
2. Russian Grammar.—*Bogdanoff*.
3. History of Methodism. (Part II.)—*Bulgakoff*.
4. Discipline. (Parts V-IX.)

§ 3. THIRD YEAR

1. Theological Compend.—*Binney*.
2. Sermons. (Vol. I.)—*Wesley*.
3. Homiletics.—*Burt*.
4. Life of Wesley.—*Telford*.

§ 4. FOURTH YEAR

1. Church History.—*Kurtz*.
2. History of World. (Abridged.)—*Karjaeff*.

3. Grammar of Native Tongue. (If candidate is other than Russian.)

4. Sermons. (Vol. II.)—*Wesley*.

## ITALIAN COURSES

### ¶ 657. Predicatori Itineranti in Italia

N. B.—1. La cultura generale che si richiede usualmente ai candidati corrisponde a quella necessaria per ottenere la patente di Maestro Elementare Superiore o l'ammissione all' Università.

2. Per l'intero corso lo studente dovrà presentare delle dichiarazioni scritte che affermino se egli abbia letto o no attentamente tutti i libri assegnati per lettura, e presenterà un riassunto di qualche capitolo o di qualch' una delle questioni contenute in ciascun libro che antecedentemente gli esaminatori sceglieranno ed annunzieranno a mezzo dei verbali della Conferenza od altrimenti.

#### § 1. AMMISSIONE SOTTO PROVA

1. Compendio di Storia Ecclesiastica.—*Hurst*. (Traduz. Burt.)

2. Teologia Dommatica.—*Bovon*.

3. Discipline della Chiesa Metodista Episcopale.

4. Vita di Giovanni Wesley (Lelièvre) e Storia del Metodismo.—*Piggott*.

5. Il contenuto della Bibbia. (Studio diretto.)

6. Catechismo della Chiesa Metodista Episcopale.

7. Omiletica.—*Burt*.

8. Relazione scritta della propria conversione e chiamata al Ministero.

#### § 2. ANNO PRIMO

1. Introduzione all'Antico Testamento. (Libro 1º, Parte 1a.)—*Gauthier*.

2. Storia Ecclesiastica. (1º Periodo: dal 1º al 4º secolo.) Testo: *Historie du Christianism*, par *Jules Guidraux*. (Genève-Jeheber, Ed.)

3. Storia civile.—*Rinaudo*. (Impero Romano fino a Costantino.)

4. La Palestina ai tempi di Cristo.—*Hapfer*.
5. Omiletica.—*Vinet*.
6. Storia delle Religioni. (Chautepic de la Saussaye)
7. Sermone scritto.

## § 3. ANNO SECONDO

1. Introduzione all'Antico Testamento. (Libro 1o, Parte 2a.)—*Gauthier*.
2. Storia Ecclesiastica. (2o Periodo: dal Sec. IV all' VIII.)—*Guidraux*.
3. Storia civile.—*Rinaudo*. (Medio Evo. Vol. III.)
4. Teologia Pastorale.—*Vinet*.
5. Introduzione al Nuovo Testamento.—*Godet*. (Vol. II, Evangelii Sinottici.)
6. Sermone scritto.

Da leggere:

Esquisse d' une philosophie de la Religion.—*Sabatier*.

## § 4. ANNO TERZO

1. Introduzione all'Antico Testamento. (Libro 2o, Parte 1a.)—*Gauthier*.
2. Storia Ecclesiastica. (3o Periodo: dal Sec. VIII al XVI.)—*Guidraux*.
3. Storia civile.—*Rinaudo*. (Medio Evo, Vol. IV.)
4. Introduzione al Nuovo Testamento. (Dal IV Evangelo all'Apocalisse, escluse le Epistole Paoline.)—*Godet*. (2o Vol. Studi Biblici.)
5. Sermone scritto.

## § 5. ANNO QUARTO

1. Introduzione all'Antico Testamento. (Libro 2o, Parte 2a.)—*Gauthier*.
2. Storia Ecclesiastica. (4o Periodo: dal Sec. XVI al XX.)—*Guidraux*.
3. Storia civile.—*Rinaudo*. (Tempi moderni, Vol. V.)
4. Introduzione al Nuovo Testamento. (Epistole Paoline e Vita di Paolo.)—*Godet*.

5. Storia dei Dommi.—*Harnack*. (Précis d'Histoire des Dogmes.—*Fischbacher*.)

6. Sermone scritto.

Da leggere :

Epitome di filosofia italiana.—*Caporali*.

## ¶ 658. Studii Preliminari per i Ministri Italiani in America

N. B.—Per Studii preliminari richiesti, vedi DISCIPLINA, ultima edizione il *Nota Bene*, articolo 598.

Si insisterà in modo speciale sulle seguenti materie: Elementi di Grammatica Italiana, di Rettorica, di Letteratura, di Filosofia, di Scienze Fisiche e Naturali, di Storia Americana, ed una conoscenza pratica della lingua Inglese.

### § 1. CORSO PRELIMINARE

1. Grammatica Italiana.—*Fornaciari*.
2. Rettorica (elementi).—*Fornaciari*.
3. Letteratura (elementi).—*Adolfo Bartoli*.
4. Filosofia (elementi).—*Augusto Conti e Vincenzo Sartini*.
5. Scienze Fisiche e Naturali.—a. *A. Gavanna*. b. *Poli e Tanfani*. c. *Geikie* (traduz. Stoppani).
6. Storia Orientale Greca.—*C. Rinaudo*.
7. Diritti e Doveri dell'uomo.—*G. Mazzini*.
8. I Promessi Sposi.—*A. Manzoni*.
9. Componimento Italiano.—(candidato.)
10. Saggio Italiano-Inglese e Inglese-Italiano (candidato).
11. American History.—*Montgomery*.
12. Speech on Conciliation.—*Burke*.

Libri da leggere :

1. Le mie prigioni.—*Pellico*.
2. Vita moderna degli Italiani.—*Mosso*.
3. La Riforma dell'Educazione.—*A. Mosso*.
4. Roma Papale.—*De Sanctis*.
5. Sermoni di Wesley, Traduz. Italiana.

¶ 659. **Predicatori Itinerante in America**

## § 1. AMMISSIONE

1. Compendio di Teologia.—*Binney-Steele*. (Trad. Ital.)
2. Disciplina M. E.—(ultima Edizione).
3. Vita di G. Wesley.—*Lelièvre*. (Trad. Sciarelli.)
4. Dottrine della Chiesa M. E.—*Sulzberger*. (Trad. Polsinelli.)
5. Il Compagno d. Bibbia.—*S. Beruatto*.
6. Perfezione Cristiana.—*Wesley*. (Trad. Italiana.)
7. Omiletica.—*William Burt*.
8. Relazione scritta della propria a Conversione e Chiamata al Ministero.

Da leggere:

1. Vita di Savonarola, 2 Vol.—*P. Villari*.
2. La lingua di Fuoco.—*Arthur*.
3. Il Dovere.—*Smiles*.
4. L'Idioma gentile.—*E. De Amicis*.
5. Rinascita.—*S. McGerald*.

## § 2. PRIMO ANNO

- Introduzione A. T.—*Revel*. (In Italiano.)
- Storia Ecclesiastica.—*Hurst*. (Trad. Burt.)
- Storia Civile.—*Rinaudo*. Vol. II.
- Omiletica.—*Vinet*. (Trad. Inglese.)
- Geografia Biblica.—*Pons*. (In Italiano.)
- Il Cristianesimo e le Chiese Cristiane.—*Professor G. Bartoli*.

La prima Pagina della Bibbia.—*Fr. Bettex*. Traduz. di P. P.).

Sermone scritto. (Da portarsi alla Conf.)

Da leggere:

1. Sermoni ed Allocuzioni.—*William Burt*.
2. Mens sana in corpore sano.—*A Mosso*.
3. Il Risparmio.—*Smiles*.
4. Christianity and the Social Crisis.—*Rauschenbusch*.
5. System of Christian Doctrine.—*Sheldon*.
6. Digest of Methodist Law.—*Merrill-Downey*.

## § 3. SECONDO ANNO

1. Evidenze del Cristianesimo.—*McIlvaine*. (In Italiano.)

2. Storia Ecclesiastica.—*Fisher*.

3. Storia Civile.—*Rinaudo*. (Medio Evo.)

4. Teologia Pastorale.—*Vinet*. (In Inglese.) The Pastor Preacher, Quayle.

5. Discorsi Sinottici del Nuovo Testamento.—*Fraser*. (Trad. Sciarelli.)

6. Sermone scritto. (Da portarsi alla Conf.)

Da leggere:

1. Gli Eroi.—*Carlyle*.

2. Sul Limitare.—*G. Pascoli*.

3. Vita e lavoro.—*Smiles*.

4. Scuola e carattere.—*Fr. W. Forster*. (Trad. Italiana.)

5. Jesus Christ and the Social Question.—*Peabody*.

## § 4. TERZO ANNO

1. Introduz. A. T. Divine Library of the O. T.—*Fitzpatrick*.

2. Testimonii di Cristo.—*Backhouse-Taylor*.

3. Storia Civile.—*Rinaudo*. Vol. IV.

4. Introduz. N. T.—*Godet*. (Trad. Inglese.)

5. Fatti Apostolici.—*G. Luzzi*.

6. Epist. S. Paolo ai Romani.—*Whedon*.

7. I Miracoli di G. C.—*Trench*. (Trad. Meille.)

8. One Thousand Questions on Methodism.—*Wheeler*.

9. Sermone scritto. (Da portarsi alla Conf.)

Da leggere:

1. Il Carattere.—*Smiles*.

2. I Martiri del Libero Pensiero.

3. Pastoral and Personal Evangelism.—*Goodell*.

4. The American Commonwealth.—*Bryce*.

## § 5. QUARTO ANNO

1. Storia Primitiva.—*Backhouse-Taylor*.

2. Storia Letteraria A. T.—*Revel*.

3. Il Papa.—*Labanca*.
4. Storia Civile.—*Rinaudo*. (Tempi Moderni.)
5. Introduz. N. T.—*Campbell Morgan*.
6. Saint Paul the Traveler, Roman Citizen.—*Ramsay*.
7. Hermeneutics.—*Terry*.
8. Storia d. Riforma in Italia.—*Comba*.
9. Filosofia d. Salvazione.—*Walker*.
10. Sermone scritto. (Da portarsi alla Conf.)

Da leggere:

1. Il bel Paese.—*Stoppani*.
2. Cristianesimo e lotta di Classe.—*Fr. W. Forster*.  
(Trad. Italiana.)
3. I Nostri Protestanti.—*Comba*.
4. Lectures on Preaching.—*Brooks*.

### ¶ 660. Predicatori Locali

#### § 1. ANNO PRIMO

1. Nuovo Testamento: nozioni dirette e generali.
2. Storia del Metodismo.—*Piggott*.
3. Catechismo della Chiesa Metodista Episcopale.
4. Compendio di Teologia.—*Binney e Steele*.
5. Lingua di Fuoco.—*Arthur*.
6. Relazione della propria conversione.

#### § 2. ANNO SECONDO

1. Disciplina della Chiesa Metodista Episcopale.  
(Dalla Ia alla VIa Parte.)
2. Storia Moderna.—*Bragagnolo*.
3. Vita di Giovanni Wesley.—*Lelièvre*.
4. Storia Ecclesiastica.—*Hurst*. (Traduz. Burt.)
5. Chiesa Primitiva.—*Blackhouse e Taylor*.
6. Antico Testamento. (Nozioni dirette e generali.)
7. Sermone scritto.

#### § 3. ANNO TERZO

1. Articoli di fede e Dottrine della Chiesa Metodista Episcopale.—*Polsinelli*.

2. Disciplina della Chiesa Metodista Episcopale. (Dalla VI Parte alla fine.)
3. Storia della Riforma in Italia.—*Comba*.
4. I testimoni di Cristo.—*Blackhouse e Taylor*.
5. I sermoni di Giovanni Wesley.
6. Sermone scritto.

§ 4. ANNO QUARTO

1. Le verità fondamentali del Cristianesimo.—*Luthardt*.
2. Il piccolo compagno della Bibbia.—*Jahier*.
3. Omiletica.—*Burt*.
4. Del Metodismo Episcopale.—*Ferreri*.
5. Sermone scritto.

COURSE OF STUDY FOR SPANISH-SPEAKING  
PREACHERS

¶ 661. Predicadores Itinerantes

§ 1. PARA ADMISSION A PRUEBA

1. Educación elemental:—Gramática, Aritmética, Geografía, Historia Patria, e Historio de las Américas.—*Estévez*.
2. Disciplina de la Iglesia. (Parte I.)
3. Catecismo Primario de la Iglesia Metodista Episcopal y de la Iglesia Metodista Episcopal del Sur.
4. Relación escrita de la conversión del candidato y de su vocación al ministerio.

§ 2. PRIMER AÑO

1. Biblia. Del Génesis al Segundo Libro de los Reyes, inclusive.
2. Historia de la Iglesia.—*Hurst*. (Parte Primera.)
3. Disciplina de la Iglesia. (Partes II, III, y IV.)

4. Juan Wesley, su Vida y su Obra.—*Lelievre*.
5. Cómo obtener la Plenitud del Poder?—*Torrey*.
6. El Hombre de Galilea.—*Haygood*.
7. Evidencias Cristianas.—*Mair*.
8. Sermon escrito.

Libros para leer :

1. Sermones de Juan Wesley. (Tomo I.)
2. Los Evangelios Explicados, Mateo.—*Ryle*.
3. Vida de Cristo.—*Stalker*.
4. El Deber.—*Smiles*.

### § 3. SEGUNDE AÑO

1. Biblia. De Esdras a Eclesiastes, inclusive.
2. Historia de la Iglesia.—*Hurst*. (Segunda Parte.)
3. Disciplina de la Iglesia. (Partes V, VI, y VII.)
4. Lógica.—*Mill*.
5. Homilética. La Predicación.—*Neely*.
6. La Ley Natural en el Mundo Espiritual.—*Drummond*.
7. Vida de San Pablo.—*Stalker*.
8. Sermon escrito.

Libros para leer :

1. Sermones de Juan Wesley. (Tomo II.)
2. Los Evangelios Explicados, Marcos.—*Ryle*.
3. El Carácter.—*Smiles*.
4. Problemas y Métodos para la Escuela Dominical.—*Roads*.

### § 4. TERCER AÑO

1. Biblia. Profetas Mayores y Menores.
2. Historia de la Iglesia.—*Hurst*. (Tercera Parte.)
3. Disciplina de la Iglesia. (Partes VIII, y IX.)
4. Manual de Doctrina Cristiana.—*Banks*.
5. Psicología Pedagógica.—*Osung*.
6. El Domingo, el Verdadero Sabat.—*Gamble*.

## COURSES OF STUDY—BULGARIAN ¶ 662

7. El Arte de Hablar y Escribir en Veinte Lecciones.—*Toro y Gomez.*

8. Sermon escrito.

Libros para leer :

1. Los Evangelios Explicados, Lucas.—*Ryle.*
2. La Inteligencia.—*Taine.*
3. Vida y Trabajo.—*Smiles.*
4. El Bautismo.—Discussion.—*Baez-Cheavens.*

### § 5. CUARTO AÑO

1. Biblia. De la Epistola de los Romanos al fin del N. T.

2. Historia de la Iglesia.—*Hurst.* (Cuarta Parte.)

3. Historia de la Reformación.—*Fisher.*

4. La Religión y las Ciencias Naturales.—*Better.*

5. Las Enseñanzas Sociales y Éticas de Jesús.—*Matthews.*

6. Historia Universal.—*Ducoudray.*

7. La Palabra en Público.—Traducción de *Jesús Urueta.*

8. Sermon escrito.

Libros para leer :

1. Los Evangelios Explicados, Juan.—*Ryle.*

2. Trabajo Hábil Para el Maestro.—*Hendrix.*

3. La Manera de Conducir a los Hombres a Cristo.—*Torrey.*

4. Christus Auctor.—*Candler.*

5. La Salvación Personal.—*Tillett.*

The Course of Study for Local Preachers in Spanish to remain the same as it is now in the Discipline of 1912.

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## ¶ 662. BULGARIAN COURSE

### § 1. RECEPTION ON TRIAL

1. Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church.
2. Bible History. (New Testament.)—*South.*

¶ 662 COURSES OF STUDY—BULGARIAN

3. Life of Wesley.—*Lelievre*. (First half of the book.)
4. Ancient History.—*Dermancheff*.
5. Bulgarian History.—*Bobcheff*.
6. Bulgarian Syntax.—*Mercheff*.
7. Bulgarian Orthography.—*Constantinoff*.
8. Catechism Number 2.
9. A short written statement of the Christian experience of the candidate and his call to preach the gospel.

§ 2. FIRST YEAR

1. Apologetics.—*Luthardt*. (Part I.)
2. Life of Wesley.—*Lelievre*. (Last half of the book.)
3. History of the Middle Ages.—*Dermancheff*.
4. Theory of Prose.—*Angeloff*.
5. Binney's Compend.
6. Evidences of Christianity. (First half of the book.)
7. Homiletics.—*Burt*.
8. A written sermon on the Fall of Man, or on the Atonement.

To be read.

1. Imago Christi.—*Stalker*.
2. Natural Theology.—*Tsanoff*.

§ 3. SECOND YEAR

1. Apologetics.—*Luthardt*. (Part II.)
2. Exegesis.—The Gospel of Luke.—*Riggs*.
3. Evidences of Christianity. (Second half of the book.)
4. Life of Christ.—*Stalker*.
5. Modern History.—*Dermancheff*.
6. Theory of Poetry.—*Angeloff*.
7. History of Bulgarian Literature.—*Mircheff*.
8. The Person of Christ.—*Schaff*.
9. A written sermon on Justification by Faith.

To be Read:

Is the Bible the True Word of God?—*Holway*.

## § 4. THIRD YEAR

1. Psychology.—*Plechanoff*.
2. Christian Baptism.—*Merrill*.
3. Ethics.—*Janet*.
4. Contemporaneous History.—*Agura*.
5. Church History.—*Giesler*. (First half of the book.)
6. Logic.—*Plechanoff*. (First half of the book.)
7. Life of Saint Paul.—*Stalker*.
8. How to Bring Souls to Christ.—*Torrey*.
9. Exegesis. Gospel of John.—*Riggs*.
10. A written sermon on Regeneration, or on Sanctification.

## § 5. FOURTH YEAR

1. Logic.—*Plechanoff*. (Last half of the book.)
2. Church History.—*Giesler*. (Last half of the book.)
3. History of Civilization.—*Guizot*.
4. Fundamental Truths of the Christian Faith.
5. Pastoral Theology.—*Kidder*.
6. Exegesis: Epistle to the Hebrews.—*Riggs*.
7. Exegesis: Epistle to the Romans.—*Riggs*.
8. Tongue of Fire.—*Arthur*.

To be Read:

1. Valor.—*Wagner*.
2. Heredity.—*Bradford*.

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## FRENCH COURSE

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## ¶ 663. Program of Studies for French Preachers

## § 1. ADMISSION SOUS EPREUVE

1. Catechisme (y compris les Doctrines et Principes de l'Église Metodiste Episcopale.)
2. Discipline de l'Église Metodiste Episcopale.
3. Histoire Biblique.—*Jéhovah*.—*Westphal*.

4. Histoire de l'Église Metodiste Episcopale.—*Ferreri*. (Traduction, *Lieure*.)

5. Doctrine, Chrétienne.—*Court*, Exposé de la Religion Chrétienne.

6. Sermon écrit.

A Lire :

1. Wesley's Sermons. (Vol. I.)

2. Vie de Wesley.—*Lelièvre*.

3. La Perfection Chrétienne.—*Wesley*. (Traduction Française.)

4. Discourses.—*Finney*.

5. La Langue de Feu.—*Arthur*. (Traduction Française.)

6. Les Pioniers Americains.—*Lelièvre*.

## § 2. PREMIÈRE ANNÉE

1. Introduction Biblique : Ancien Testament.—*Gautier*. (Vol. I.)

2. Homiletique. Traité d'Homiletique.—*Burt*.

3. Philosophie. Histoire de la Philosophie.—*Weber*.

4. Histoire. Cours Complet d'Histoire.—*Malet*. (Vol. I, Antiquité.)

5. Literature Française.—*Doumic*.

6. Theologie. Dogmatique Chrétienne.—*Martensen*. (Traduction *Ducros*, 1e. moitié.)

A Lire :

1. La Vie de Jésus.—*Pressensé*.

2. Homiletique.—*Vinet*.

3. La Vie de Saint François d'Assise.—*Paul Sabatier*.

4. Palestine.—*Bovet*.

5. Heure decisive des Missions modernes.—*Mott*. (Traduction Française.)

## § 3. DEUXIÈME ANNÉE

1. Introduction Biblique : Ancien Testament.—*Gautier*. (Vol. II.)

2. Histoire, Cours Complet.—*Malet*. (Vol. II.)

3. Philosophie. Cours Elementaire.—*Boirac*. (Pp. 1 à 312.)

4. Histoire de l'Église.

5. Theologie Dogmatique Chrétienne.—*Martensen*. (2e. moitié.)

A Lire :

1. Histoire des Protestants de France.—*Felice*.

2. De la Revocation à la Révolution.—*Lelièvre*.

3. Religion de l'Autorité et Religion de l'Esprit.—*A. Sabatier*.

4. Experience Religieuse.—*James*. (Traduction, *Abeuzit*.)

5. Pots Cassés.—*Begbie*. (Traduction Française.)

#### § 4. TROISIÈME ANNÉE

1. Histoire : Cours Complet.—*Malet*. (Vol. III.)

2. Introduction Biblique : Nouveau Testament.—*Farques*.

3. Philosophie.—*Boirac*. (Pp. 312 à 516.)

4. Theologie Moral.—*Bovon*. (Vol. I.)

5. Exégèse Saint Jean.—*Godet*. (Dernier edition révisée par *Geo Godet*.)

A Lire :

1. Vers l'Église libre.—*Narfon*.

2. Le Christianisme Social.—*Fallot*.

3. La Philosophie de la Croix.—*Gindraux*.

4. Histoire de la Bible en France.—*Lortsch*.

5. La Papauté.—*Doellinger*.

#### § 5. QUATRIÈME ANNÉE

1. Histoire. Cours Complet.—*Malet*. (Vol. IV.)

2. Apologetique. Mission historique de Jésus.—*Monnier*.

3. Theologie Moral.—*Bovon*. (Vol. II.)

4. Exégèse.—Saint Paul.—*A. Sabatier*.

5. Philosophie. Philosophie de la Religion.—*Sabatier*.

A Lire :

1. L'Oeuvre du Saint Esprit.—*Tophel*.

## ¶ 664 COURSES OF STUDY—OTHER COURSES

2. Valeur de l'Experience religieuse.—*Bois.*
  3. Apologetique du Christianisme.—*Berthoud.*
  4. Le Christ et la pensée moderne.—*Gindraux.*
  5. Theologie Catholique.
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## ¶ 664. OTHER COURSES

For Courses presented in Ojibway, and in the languages of Africa, India, Malaysia, China, Japan, and Korea, see the Year Books of Annual Conferences and Missions.

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## ¶ 665. FOR DEACONESSSES

[Prepared by The General Deaconess Board]

This Course of Study will go into effect May 1st, 1921. at which time "Directions and Helps" for the Course will be available and these "Directions and Helps" are to be regarded as among the requirements of the "Course."

Graduates of recognized Training Schools are exempt from these studies and certificates of credit covering any of the following books or their equivalents may be accepted by the Conference Deaconess Board.

A graduate of a registered hospital of our Church or of any other hospital approved by the General Deaconess Board, is exempt from this Course of Study except those sections on Bible, Church History, and the Discipline.

### § 1. ADMISSION ON PROBATION

The candidate for Probationary Deaconess, who is not a graduate of a recognized Training School or registered hospital, is expected to meet the following requirements;

1. Pass examinations in the following books:

1. Art of Writing English.—*Brown-Barnes.*
2. The Life of John Wesley.—*Winchester.*
3. The Bible—Its Origin and Nature—*Dods.*
4. The Deaconess Movement.—*Golder.*

2. Write the following:

1. An essay of one thousand words on Sunday School Work based on The Church School.—*Athearn*.
2. The candidate shall be prepared to write a paper of not less than six hundred words upon one of the following subjects, using only the materials found in the Bible:  
     The Life of Moses.  
     The Life of Paul.
3. During the period of probation pursue the following Course of Study:

§ 2. FIRST YEAR

THE BIBLE—NEW TESTAMENT.

For study:

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THE Index of the Discipline of 1920 will be found invaluable. A statement of some of its features may help to its more satisfactory use. We itemize the following words of explanation:

1. The Index has been constructed upon the principle now followed by the best authorities. The triple indentation in the columns of the previous publication has been avoided. Broken lines have made way for the one arrangement which is altogether scientific.

2. The references relating to the greater topics of the Discipline—such as General Conference, Minister or District Superintendent—have been gathered together under that topic with practical completeness. The user of the Discipline should therefore consult these larger topics.

3. The repetition of the same notations is not infrequent. With ever new legislation by the General Conference, and with the creation of new agencies like the Council of Boards of Benevolence, the various departments of our denominational activity are more and more closely interrelated. No sufficient Index can overlook this fact.

With these words of explanation we print the fullest Index of the Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church that has ever been issued. Even its pages might have been increased, but we can hope that all reasonable needs are herein met.

EDITOR.

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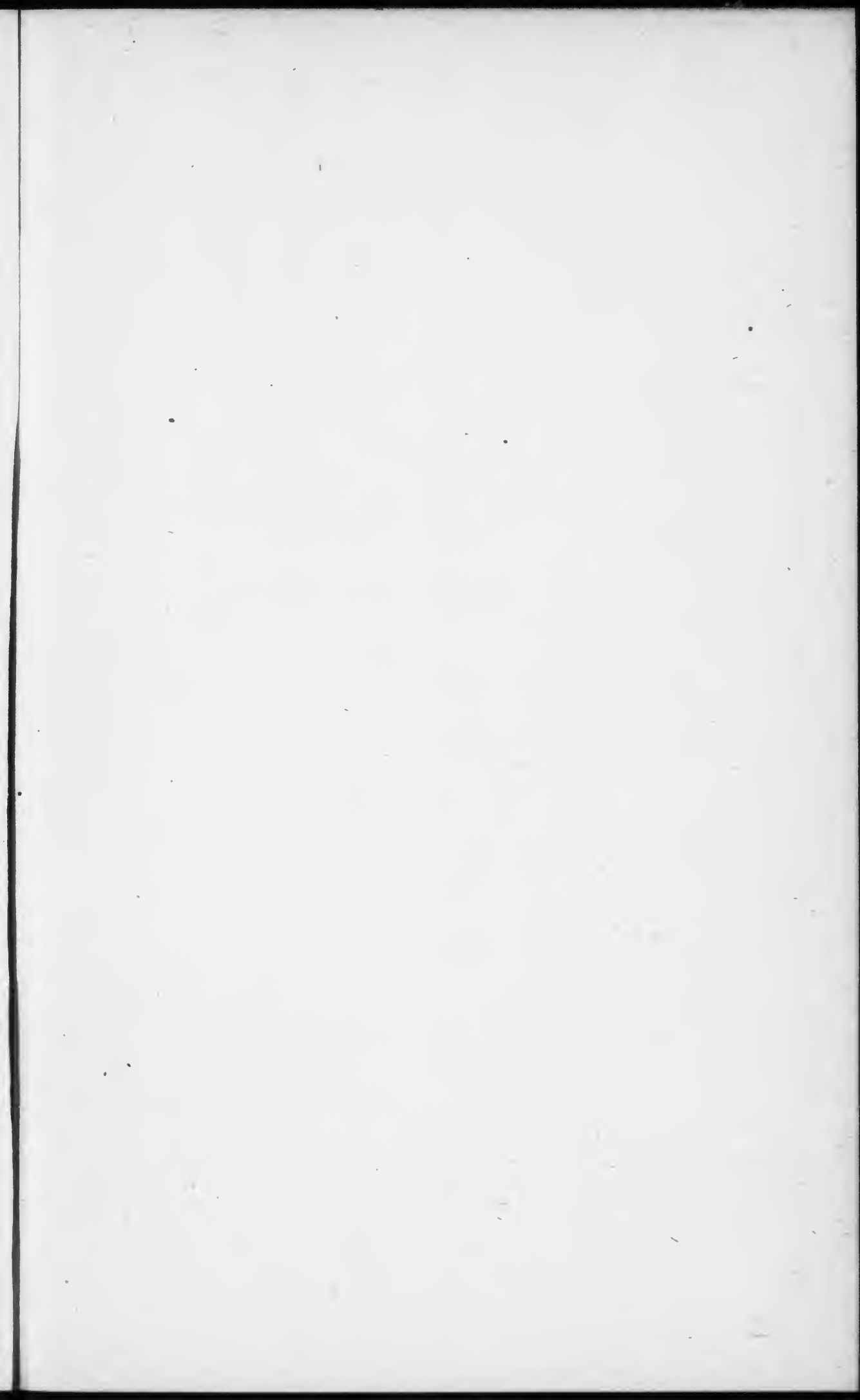
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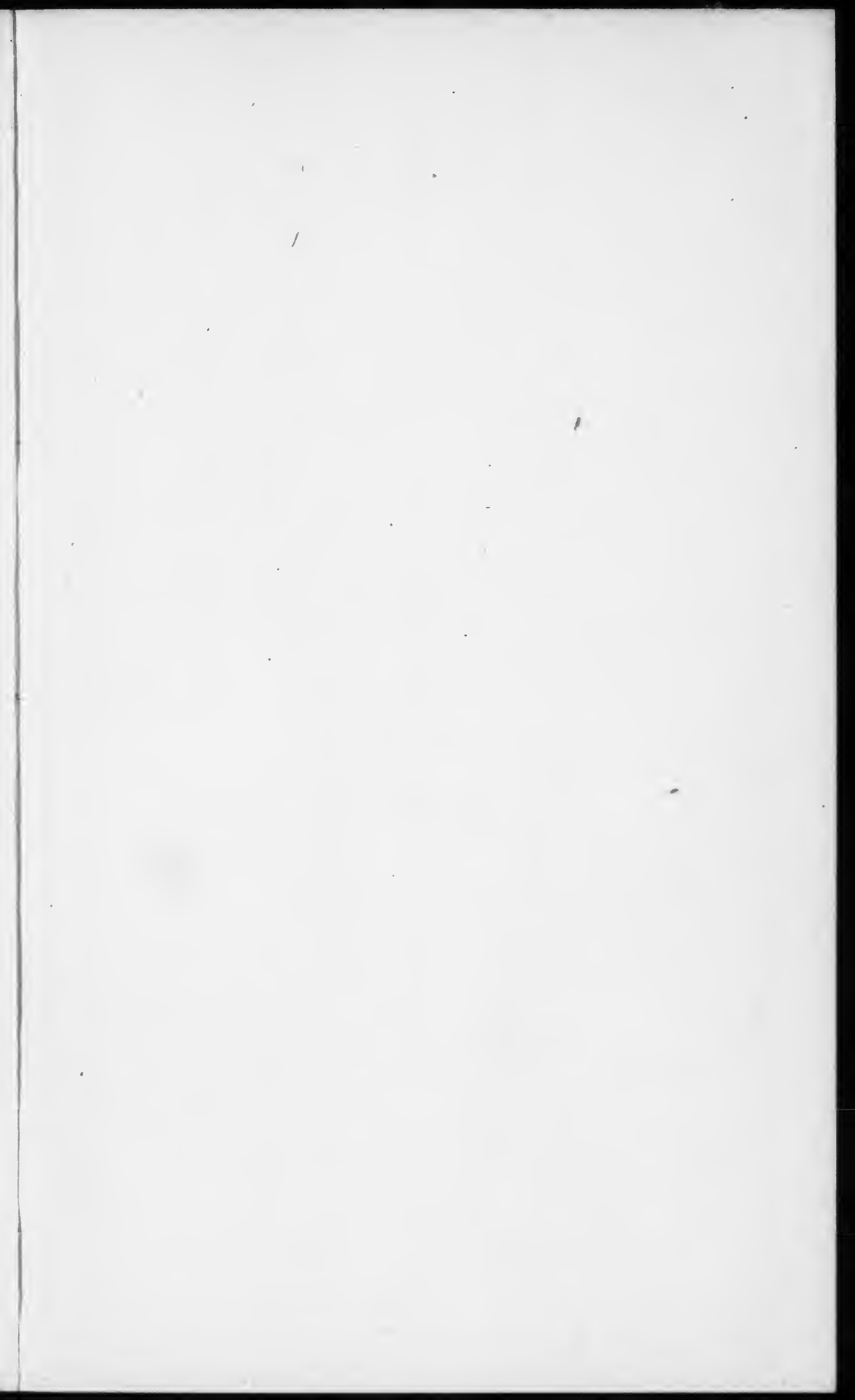
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